S1220-1

Report of the Judicial Department State of Connecticut

John P. Cotter
Chief Justice

John A. Speziale
Justice, Chief Court Administrator

January, 1979
Hartford, Connecticut

S1220-1

State of Connecticut

SUPREME COURT

Drawer N, Station A

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

January 3, 1979

The Honorable Ella T. Grasso
Governor of Connecticut
State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Governor Grasso:

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 78-280 Section 66, we submit this report concerning the operations of the Connecticut Judicial Department during the biennium July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1978.

In this report we have made considerable reference to the trial court unification. Significant time and effort were expended during the biennium to plan for the implementation of the one-tier Superior Court. The court unification, which became effective July 1, 1978, has had a dramatic effect on the operation and administration of the Judicial Department and will continue to shape the course of justice in the State of Connecticut for many years. Court unification has provided the Judicial Department with a new opportunity to deal with the difficult and challenging problems facing Connecticut's courts and we are confident that the quality of justice will be enhanced and litigation will

proceed through the courts not only fairly, but also promptly and economically.

Connecticut should be proud to be the only state with a fully unified, state-maintained, one-tier trial court system. This system was brought about gradually and rationally over many years, by progressive legislative acts, without resulting in chaos or confusion. The court unification act, Public Act 76-436, was passed by the General Assembly after several years of study and research. Legal scholars, the American Judicature Society, the American Bar Association, the Connecticut Bar Association, the Connecticut Citizens for Judicial Modernization, and others have enthusiastically supported the concept of a single-tier trial court. A recently published profile of Connecticut's court organization, prepared by the National Center for State Courts, established that as of September 1, 1978, Connecticut had met or exceeded almost all the standards on court organization adopted by the American Bar Association in 1974.

Countless hours were spent to bring about court unification. An advisory council was established by Public Act 76-436 to assist the Judicial Department and the General Assembly in implementing the one-tier trial court. The advisory council included judges, the executive secretary of the Judicial Department, legislators, members of the Connecticut Bar Association, citizens with experience in the fields of business and industrial management, and members of

the Connecticut Citizens for Judicial Modernization. Many have joined in a concerted effort to make court merger a reality. We express our sincerest appreciation to all these persons and organizations for their dedicated work.

This report discusses the work performed during the biennium and the work which needs to be done in the future to ensure that the complaints voiced by many about the courts - the complexity and the delays - are heard and answered. We recognize the legitimate complaints and our obligation to take steps to efficiently simplify complexities and reduce delays. But, as the statistics appended to this report reveal, case filings continue at record high levels while the personnel and other resources available to handle the business have not increased proportionately.

The statistics show a staggering caseload on the trial and appellate court levels. Nevertheless, during the biennium progress has been made in reducing case backlog in several areas. Since the inception of court unification on July 1, 1978, there has been a substantial decrease of pending criminal cases in the geographical areas. We also note with satisfaction that the number of pending civil jury cases has decreased even though the number of full jury trials held has increased. The appointment of caseflow managers for civil, criminal, and family matters will help the department to better supervise and monitor the movement of cases in order to expedite their disposition. But the critical factor in the movement of business remains the hard

work of dedicated, well-qualified judges.

It is incumbent on us, therefore, to remark on the level of compensation paid to the judiciary. The justices of the Supreme Court have disposed of a record number of matters during the biennium and the trial judges have worked long and hard to reduce the backlog of cases. Trial judges now are on the bench five days a week, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., so that research, decision writing, and administrative tasks can only be performed nights and weekends. In order to attract well-qualifed persons with ability and integrity to judicial service, it is of paramount importance that the State of Connecticut offer fair, just and adequate compensation. The Commission on Compensation of Elected State Officials and Judges has aptly stated that "service as a judge is a career and should be treated as such with salary increases granted for continued satisfactory service," and that "judges must be compensated in a manner that will allow them to support their families on the same economic level as successful lawyers if the courts are to attract the best qualified to service on the bench." We urge the General Assembly to give full consideration to this important subject by increasing judicial salaries to an equitable level of compensation. We further recommend that after an equitable level of judicial compensation is set, further increases be tied to the cost of living index as is presently done in other states.

Another area of deep concern involves security of

judges, court employees, members of the public, and state property. Recent incidents highlight this aspect of judicial life. Attacks on personnel, breaks into court buildings, vandalism, thefts from court personnel, and theft of state-owned property emphasize the need for continued supervision and adequate protection. The provision of adequate security will require the expenditure of substantial sums to take steps such as installation of advanced detection equipment and employment of adequate security staff.

Other important areas covered in this report, including courthouse facilities, prisoner transportation, juror selection, court costs and fees, litigation against judges and court personnel, appellate courts, and rule making, require immediate attention. In submitting this report and in making recommendations, we do so with the hope that the judicial system can and will be further improved in order to dispense equal justice to all fairly, promptly, and economically.

We view the advent of court unification as an exciting challenge, and, with pardonable pride, we assure you that the judges and all the employees of the Judicial Department have accepted this challenge and by their hard work and dedication are making this court unification an outstanding success.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Cotter,
Chief Justice

John A. Speziale
Justice,
Chief Court Administrator

BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

JULY 1, 1976 - JUNE 30, 1978

Prepared By

THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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CHIEF COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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Chief Justice, Supreme Court*

Hon. John A. Speziale
Associate Justice, Supreme Court
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* Chief Court Administrator until April 24, 1978.
** Acting Chief Court Administrator from February 28, 1978 to April 24, 1978.
*** Chief Judge until July 1, 1978

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PROLOGUE

This report covers the biennium July 1, 1976 through June 30, 1978, immediately preceding the unification of the Court of Common Pleas with the Superior Court on July 1, 1978. Although this is a biennial report, we do address the trial court unification because of the amount of time spent during the biennium planning for its implementation and because of the dramatic changes it has brought. Consequently, this report looks forward as well as back, in order to present as complete a picture as possible of the Connecticut Judicial Department both before and after court unification.

The statistics from this biennium again show a high volume of case filings. In the Superior Court, 54,676 new civil cases were filed and 8,274 criminal cases were added to the docket. In the Court of Common Pleas, there were 91,863 new civil cases, 174,189 criminal cases, 585,620 motor vehicle cases and 179,970 small claims matters. There has been no significant increase in the number of personnel who must handle this staggering volume of business. During the biennium 49,274 civil cases and 8,236 criminal cases were disposed in the Superior Court. In the Court of Common Pleas, 90,150 civil cases, 176,382 criminal cases and 583,578 motor vehicle cases were disposed.

As this report shows, the Judicial Department has undertaken efforts to maximize its available resources and to develop new techniques and procedures to handle the volume of business promptly, justly, and economically. But further steps need to be taken to meet the justifiable criticism that courts throughout the nation are backlogged, that cases are delayed for years, and that courts do not take responsibility and control over expediting litigation. It is axiomatic that "justice delayed is justice denied." It is also clear that court backlogs inhibit meaningful access to the courts, a right conferred by our State and Federal Constitutions, and that there is no more effective deterrent to crime than a speedy trial and swift punishment for the guilty. Therefore, the dispensation of justice in a court system depends not only on the quality of the judicial decisions rendered but also on the pace at which cases move to final disposition.

Connecticut is fortunate in having talented and capable judges who, through their own assiduous efforts and the Department's continuing education programs, have continued to distinguish themselves by the high quality of their decisions.

The court unification law and new court rules have provided the Connecticut Judicial Department with an opportunity to accelerate the rate at which cases can be disposed without sacrificing the quality of decisions rendered. This will not occur, however, unless court unifi-

cation and the new rules are perceived not as an end in themselves but as a means to achieve this laudable goal.

On July 1, 1978, the following steps were initiated in order to accelerate the disposition of litigation and to maximize the advantage of a one-tier trial court system:

1. Judges assigned to judicial district courthouse are no longer permitted to sit on the bench only four days a week, with Mondays reserved for research, but all judges are required to conduct court five days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2. The first judicial assignment period was for six months commencing July 1, 1978, the second is for the same duration, and it is anticipated that subsequent assignment periods will extend for equally long periods of time, giving assigned judges sufficient time to dig in, plan for extended stays, and attack accumulated backlogs in their assigned locations.

3. Judges who conclude their primary assignment prior to 5 p.m. on any day will be reassigned for the day by their administrative judge.

4. Full sessions of court will be conducted twelve months each year with as little deacceleration of court business as possible during the months of July and August.

5. Administrative judges are encouraged to apportion administrative appeals among all judges assigned to their judicial district. These cases require little bench time but often demand considerable time for research.

6. Judges assigned to non-jury cases in the larger judicial districts are no longer obligated to preside over short calendar sessions. This allows them to concentrate on a segment of the court's business that requires significant research and writing.

7. Individuals in the Office of the Chief Court Administrator have been designated as case flow managers, one each for the civil, criminal, and family divisions. They will work exclusively towards the achievement of the most important goal of the Office of the Chief Court Administrator - prompt, fair, and economical disposition of litigation.

8. Seminars have been conducted by recognized experts in case flow management for the judges and administrative staff.

9. An innovative project which provides all trial judges with access to the services of a centrally located

pool of eleven law clerks, headed by an experienced attorney, has been funded through November 30, 1979, by the Connecticut Justice Commission. In its first three months of operation, the law clerk pool received 305 requests for research assistance from 65 judges statewide. The law clerk pool is helping to meet the trial judges' urgent need for support staff, particularly to assist with legal research tasks, so that judges can be on the bench five days a week.

In this report, there are descriptions of the organization and administration of the Connecticut judicial system before and after court unification. As one can readily see, the key word for the success of court unification is "flexibility." It is apparent that the court unification legislation, Public Act 76-436, as amended in 1977 and 1978, was the catalyst for many changes. For example, the judges adopted new, uniform rules of practice and procedure which modernize the ways in which cases are brought and processed on the trial and appellate levels. The Chief Court Administrator can now assign judges for longer periods of time because the four statutory court sessions were abolished by the court unification legislation. A longer judicial assignment enhances the ability of the entire court system to engage in the adjudication and disposition of matters throughout the year. Longer judicial assignments also allow judges to specialize in the adjudication of certain types of cases and to conduct lengthy trials. However, court unification also makes it possible to rotate judges from one division of the court to another, so that they can become familiar with the entire range of the court's functions. In addition, the elimination of the former court jurisdictional barriers permits the Chief Court Administrator to maximize the use of available judge time. A judge who has finished his business early in the day can readily assist another judge who has several matters waiting to be heard. Also important, the court unification legislation eliminated the hierarchical distinctions between courts and judges within this state so that Connecticut's citizens can feel that they have equal justice.

Another advantage of court unification is that the Chief Court Administrator can use all available courthouse facilities within each judicial district. Trials can be held at any courthouse facility within a judicial district, even if the jurors were not originally summoned to that court house or the matter was filed at a different location within the judicial district. Other efficiencies have been obtained from the consolidation of clerks' offices within the judicial district courthouses and the reduction in the number of assignment lists prepared by the clerks. Procedures can and have been adapted to the pace of business within a judicial district. In the busier judicial dis-

tricts, it is now possible to schedule all motions in certain categories of cases for hearing on the same day. In the less busy judicial districts, it is possible to schedule weekly short calendars for all cases.

Countless hours have been devoted by many to bring about court unification. Public Act 76-436 established an advisory council to assist the Judicial Department and the General Assembly in implementing unification. The advisory council's membership consisted of judges, the executive secretary of the Judicial Department, legislators, members of the Connecticut Bar Association, citizens with experience in the field of business and industrial management, and members of the Connecticut Citizens for Judicial modernization. Chief Justice John P. Cotter, the prior Chief Court Administrator, was chairman of the advisory council. Justice Alva P. Loiselle, chairman of the rules committee, was also very active. For over eighteen months, the members of the advisory council and their subcommittees devoted many hours of their time in a sincere effort to make court unification a reality. The excellent symposium on court unification, co-sponsored by the judiciary committee of the General Assembly and the advisory council, was held in Hartford on January 13, 1978. There were also many meetings with the officers and various committee chairmen of the Connecticut Bar Association and other interested groups. To all of these people, we express the heartfelt thanks of the Connecticut Judicial Department.

Although more time is needed to assess the effect of court unification, statistics for the first five months of operation are encouraging. Particularly favorable results in the movement of court business have been shown in the judicial districts of New London and Litchfield. On a statewide basis, statistics from the criminal division indicate that the time period for disposing cases is being reduced substantially. The number of pending criminal cases in the geographical areas has sharply declined. In the civil division, as a result of the five day court week and the six month assignment period, the number of jury cases on the trial list has been reduced. More significantly, there has been a 130% increase in the number of verdicts received over the comparable period in 1977-78. The disposition of more cases after a full trial in the first five months of court unification than in the comparable period in the prior year was not achieved easily but occurred because of the assiduous efforts of all the judges and the enhanced capability of the unified court to accelerate the movement of cases.

Although we recognize that many steps still need to be taken to address the problems caused by case volume and delay, we are convinced that court unification is working and that our caseflow management system, when fully implemented, will meet these problems squarely.

-II-

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

COURT ORGANIZATION

During the biennium, the Connecticut Judicial Department consisted of the Supreme Court and the Superior Court, both constitutionally created courts, and the Court of Common Pleas, the Juvenile Court, and the Courts of Probate. All courts except the Probate Courts were state maintained.

On July 1, 1978, with the abolition of the Court of Common Pleas and the Juvenile Court, the Superior Court became the trial court of original jurisdiction over all matters except those within the jurisdiction of the Courts of Probate. The Judicial Department, consisting of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, and the Courts of Probate, is centrally administered and, except for the Probate Courts, state financed.

The legislation which has brought Connecticut the only one-tier, fully unified trial court system in the nation was enacted gradually and rationally.* Thus, the Judicial Department was able to plan for and adjust to the changes mandated by law. The process included incremental steps towards state financing of judicial operations, a progressive move from local and county government support of the judicial branch. In 1942, the Juvenile Court commenced operation as the first state maintained Juvenile Court in the nation. When county government was abolished in 1960, the maintenance of the Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas was transferred to the state. In 1961, a significant court reform was effected by the establishment of the state maintained Circuit Court, which replaced all municipal and trial justice courts. Another major step towards a one-tier court system was taken on December 31, 1974, when the Circuit Court was abolished and its functions were assumed by the Court of Common Pleas. The Circuit Court judges were elevated to the Court of Common Pleas at this time. Venue and case filing laws were also changed and allowed for more effective use of courthouse facilities and data processing equipment.

* The Probate Courts, each of which serves an area of the State specified by statute, remain unaffected by the law which unified the trial courts. Nevertheless, Connecticut is the only state which has a trial court system that is fully unified because the jurisdiction of the Probate Courts is limited principally to rendering decrees for the orderly settlement of the estates of deceased persons, matters which are normally uncontested and not litigated, the Probate Courts are supervised by a full time probate court administrator who is appointed by the Chief Justice and who must report annually to the Chief Court Administrator, some types of contested Probate Court matters may be transferred to the Superior Court for adjudication and appeals from Probate Court decrees may be taken to the Superior Court.

The legislation which mandated the merger of the Circuit Court with the Court of Common Pleas also authorized a commission to "study and prepare legislation for the unification of all functions, powers and jurisdiction possessed by the Court of Common Pleas and Juvenile Court, in the Superior Court and present legislative drafts to the 1976 session of the General Assembly, on or before January 1, 1976." The 1976 General Assembly, by Public Act 76-436, enacted comprehensive legislation unifying the three state maintained trial courts into one Superior Court.

Effective July 1, 1978, for purposes of applying venue laws, which govern the filing of all civil and criminal matters, the state has been divided into eleven judicial districts and twenty-one geographical areas. Small claims, summary process, paternity, and support actions are filed with the clerk's office serving a geographical area. All other civil actions are filed with the clerk's office serving a judicial district. All criminal cases are processed initially in a geographical area courthouse and may be transferred to the judicial district courthouse for trial, if necessary, without the formality of a bindover hearing or a time-comsuming probable cause hearing.

The state has also been divided into fifteen judicial districts for the application of venue laws in juvenile matters. Each juvenile district has a courthouse where juvenile matters are heard and adjudicated, thus preserving the confidentiality of juvenile matters.

The Superior Court now consists of three major divisions established by court rule: family, civil and criminal. Each division is subdivided into parts to which judges are assigned by the Chief Court Administrator. Presiding judges are designated by the Chief Court Administrator with primary responsibility for expediting judicial business in a fair manner and apportioning the work among the judges assigned to that part.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

The head of the Judicial Department is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, but its administrative director is the Chief Court Administrator. Prior to July 1, 1978, the Chief Court Administrator was nominated by the governor and appointed by the General Assembly. The court unification legislation specified that the incumbent Chief Court Administrator on July 1, 1978 would serve the balance of his term and thereafter the Chief Justice would have the authority to appoint the Chief Court Administrator.

The Chief Court Administrator is primarily responsible for the efficient operation of the department, the expeditious dispatch of litigation, the prompt and proper administration of judicial business, and the assignment of judges.

A consolidated Office of the Chief Court Administrator has been created to perform functions that before July 1, 1978 were shared by the Chief Court Administrator, the former chief judges of the trial courts, and the former office of the executive secretary. Among the many administrative functions performed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator are: caseflow management, coordination of clerks' offices, facilities management, personnel administration, purchasing, fiscal functions (audit, payroll, budget), jury administration, legal research and legislative analysis, continuing education, data processing, forms and records management, research and planning, grants' administration, coordination of court reporters and court interpreters, and statistical analysis.

To assist in the orderly administration of the Superior Court, the Chief Court Administrator has designated administrative judges and presiding judges to assist the administrative judge for each judicial district. In the larger judicial districts, one or two judges have been designated as assistant administrative judges.

The administrative judges meet frequently with the Chief Court Administrator to report on progress made towards, and impediments against, the prompt, fair and economical disposition of judicial business and to offer and discuss solutions to a variety of administrative issues. In addition, the administrative judges serve as a liaison between the Chief Court Administrator and the presiding and assigned judges in order to implement administrative policies. For example, the administrative judges have authority to reassign, for the day, a judge who finishes his primary assignment before 5 p.m., consistent with the Chief Court Administrator's policy that court shall be held five days a week until 5 p.m.

The presiding judges are responsible for expediting the disposition of the court business with which they have been entrusted, for apportioning the judicial business that has been assigned, and for apprising the Chief Court Administrator of progress in achieving stated objectives as well as problems encountered in the process.

Another administrative benefit of court unification is the consolidation of the former separate clerk's offices, one for the Superior Court and one for the Court of Common Pleas, in the judicial district courthouses. This has resulted in elimination of duplicate locations for filing law suits, consolidation of files into one filing system, reduction of motion and assignment lists, and consolidation of personnel functions.

A coordinator of clerks position was created within the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. Among the

duties associated with this position are: supervision and examination of the administrative methods and procedures of the various clerk's offices and implementation of improvement programs; promotion and development of statewide uniform clerk's office procedures; monitoring the performance of each clerk's office; and coordination of seminars, conferences and training programs for the clerks and their staff.

Support personnel performing services and assisting the court in family relations cases (dissolution of marriage, juvenile, and support,) have been assigned to work under the overall supervision of a single administrative office of the Family Division. Through constant communication with the Office of the Chief Court Administrator and the administrative judges, a capability now exists to identify and to resolve problems and to establish uniform policy for the Family Division.

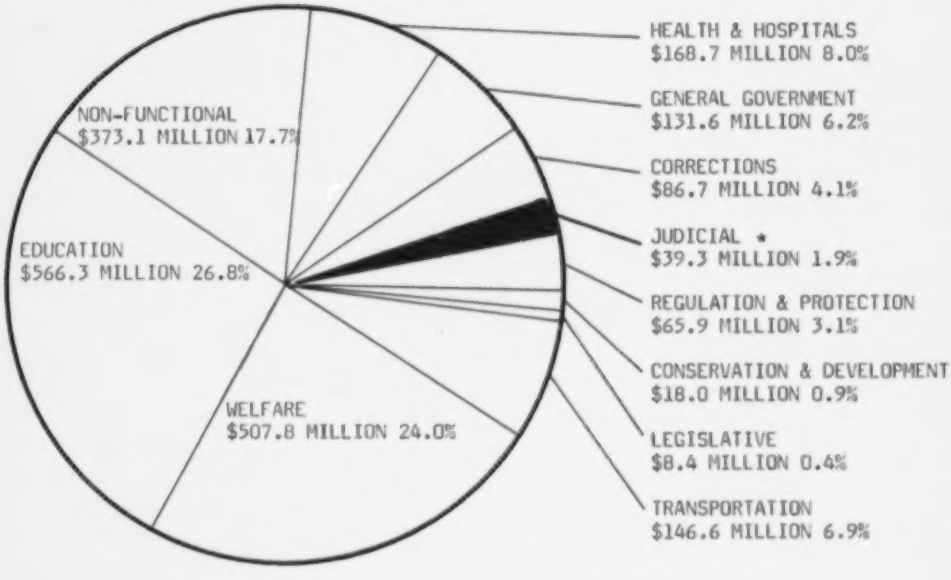
The administration of the Division of Criminal Justice has also been affected favorably by court unification. Former prosecuting attorneys and assistant prosecuting attorneys of the Court of Common Pleas have been appointed assistant state's attorneys and deputy assistant state's attorneys for a Superior Court judicial district rather than for only one of the twenty-one geographical areas. These changes give the state's attorney for each judicial district a greater supervisory role and the ability to reassign his attorneys, as the need arises, to any court location within the judicial district.

The Courts of Probate are supervised by a full time Probate Court administrator who is appointed by the Chief Justice. The Probate Court administrator reports frequently to the Chief Court Administrator.

COURT FINANCES

GENERAL FUND RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS
FISCAL 1978-79
TOTAL $2,112.5 MILLION*

BY FUNCTION



* Includes the recommended appropriation not only to the state-maintained courts, but also to the Division of Criminal Justice (state's attorneys, prosecutors, investigative staff and clerical personnel), the Public Defender Services Commission and County Sheriffs.

The funding of judicial functions has been steadily reduced since the 1964-66 biennium from 3% to its 1977-78 level of 1.8%* of General Fund appropriations.

A significant trend in recent years is the narrowing of the gap between what can be described as "income" of the Judicial Department and expenditures. This income consisted of revenues (primarily fines, bond forfeitures and fees collected for services rendered by the courts in civil actions) amounting to nearly $14.5 million, child-support collections of $8.8 million, which were transmitted to the Welfare Department, and reimbursements to the General Fund by the federal government for departmental expenses of $2.7 million. The total income of $26.2 million was 80% higher than the comparable figure six years ago, primarily due to a doubling of revenues.

By contrast, during the same six-year period, expenditures increased by only 43%, to $27.7 million, and the spread between income and outlays was reduced to $1.5 million. These figures indicate that the courts' public service role is cost-conscious and cost-effective.

The income-outlay difference of $1.5 million represents a record, as the table below shows:

Fiscal Year	Income	Expenses	Difference
1972-73	$14,531,889	$19,348,645	$4,816,756
1973-74	14,901,736	21,034,821	6,133,085
1974-75	15,159,606	23,525,475	8,365,869
1975-76	17,743,144	24,288,399	6,545,255
1976-77	23,001,539	25,179,630	2,178,091
1977-78	26,226,398	27,729,736	1,503,338

* Expenditures attributable directly to the Judicial Department amounted to only 1.48% of the General Fund appropriations, the remaining 0.32% having been appropriated to the criminal justice division, public defenders, and sheriffs.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Income and Expenditures

		FY 1976-77		FY 1977-78	
I	REVENUE				
	Avails of Court (Fees, Fines, Bond Forfeitures)				
	Superior Court	$ 1,826,532		$ 1,929,718	
	Court of Common Pleas	905,728		846,648	
	Court of Common Pleas, G.A.	10,382,326		11,357,475	
		$ 13,114,556		14,133,841	
	Other Revenue				
	Sales of Publications By Commission on Official Legal Publications	$ 166,802		$ 215,272	
	Judges' Retirement Contributions	105,916		119,374	
	Miscellaneous	5,936		3,581	
		$ 676,654		338,227	
	TOTAL REVENUE	$ 13,791,240		$ 14,472,068	
II	INTEREST (at 6%)	$ 335,000		$ 245,000	
III	REIMBURSEMENT TO GENERAL FUND OF PAYMENTS MADE FROM JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET				
	Title IV-D Reimbursements:				
	Superior Court - Family Relations Div.	$ 409,911		$ 471,082	
	Court of Common Pleas - Bureau of Support	335,555		417,933	
	Court of Common Pleas, G.A. - Fam. Relations	587,690		686,629	
		$ 1,332,934		$ 1,575,644	
	Title XX Reimbursements:				
	Juvenile Court - Probation	$ 915,271		$ 963,103	
	Superior Court - Family Relations Div.	14,160		113,048	
	Court of Common Pleas, G.A. - Fam. Rel. Dept.	8,593		39,377	
		$ 938,024		$ 1,115,528	
	TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS	$ 2,270,958		$ 2,691,172	
IV	COLLECTIONS				
	Child Support:				
	Superior Court - Family Relations	$	$ 7,261,078	$	$ 8,748,350
	portion payable to Welfare Dept.	3,213,968		4,012,587	
	Common Pleas - Bureau of Support		5,471,947		3,173,129
	portion payable to Welfare Dept.	961,676		1,112,562	
	Common Pleas/Circuit - Fam. Relations		6,835,884		7,453,608
	portion payable to Welfare Dept.	2,826,697		3,693,009	
	Juvenile - Restitution & other Collection	11,087		15,249	
	TOTAL COLLECTIONS	$ 7,013,428		$ 8,833,407	
V	TOTAL: REVENUE, WELFARE COLLECTIONS, REIMBURSEMENTS AND INTEREST	$ 23,012,626		$ 26,241,647	
VI	EXPENDITURES	$ 25,179,630		$ 27,729,736	

RULE MAKING

SUPERIOR COURT RULES

The Superior Court has authority to establish its own rules of practice and procedure. To implement court unification, the rules of the Superior Court, Juvenile Court, and the Court of Common Pleas were amended to effect a smooth transition of those courts into the unified one-tier Superior Court.

The judges of the Superior Court had two underlying goals in the revision of their rules of practice:

1. to make the rules of practice in the Superior Court as efficient and comprehensive as possible; and

2. to implement the unification of the trial courts in this state.

In the process of revising these rules, the rules committee of the Superior Court solicited and received input from the bench, the bar, and the public. Subcommittees composed of members of the bench and bar were formed and public hearings were held at which attorneys and other members of the public were heard.

The changes in the rules of the Superior Court trial division, which became effective July 1, 1978, are dramatic and widespread. They represent the most comprehensive revision to the Connecticut Practice Book since 1908, the year the rules were first adopted.

Amendments were also made to the ethical considerations and disciplinary rules concerning lawyer advertising in the Code of Professional Responsibility, pursuant to the United States Supreme Court decision in Bates vs. State Bar of Arizona, 433 U.S. 350 (1977).

SUPREME COURT AND APPELLATE SESSION RULES

Revisions to the rules of practice in the Supreme Court and in the Appellate Session of the Superior Court were adopted by the justices of the Supreme Court and the judges of the Superior Court, effective July 1, 1978.

These new rules establish a central filing and processing system for appeals. Under this system the progress of cases on appeal can be monitored and controlled and bottlenecks in the appellate process can be identified.

These rules also combine the majority of the Appellate Session rules with the Supreme Court rules so that, to the greatest extent possible, there is just one set of rules of practice for both appellate bodies.

FORMS

Another major revision to the Practice Book was a comprehensive review of its more than 500 pleading forms. As a result of this review existing forms were updated, forms no longer in use were deleted, and necessary new forms were added. Prior to adoption, these forms were screened by a committee composed of judges, attorneys,court clerks, and Judicial Department personnel.

-III-

COURT ACTIVITY

SUPREME COURT

STRUCTURE

The Supreme Court consists of the Chief Justice and five Associate Justices, including one who also serves as the Chief Court Administrator. The members of this constitutional, state-maintained court are appointed for eight-year terms by the General Assembly, upon nomination by the Governor.

JURISDICTION

The highest court in the state's judiciary, the Supreme Court,has final and conclusive jurisdiction of all matters brought before it according to law. It hears appeals from final judgments or actions of the Superior Court, except appeals within the jurisdiction of the Appellate Session of the Superior Court. Appeals which are heard by the Supreme Court only after it grants certification include zoning appeals, other administrative appeals from the Superior Court, and appeals from final judgments of the Appellate Session of the Superior Court.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

The Supreme Court appoints the Reporter of Judicial Decisions who prepares for printing in official legal publications all decisions of the Supreme Court and those decisions of the Superior Court which he deems useful as precedents. He also prepares headnotes, digests of decisions, and other similar material for publication.

In addition to instituting its own rules of practice and procedure, the Supreme Court establishes the personnel policies and compensation plan for the employees of the Judicial Department.

DECISIONS RENDERED

A total of 1,191 cases, motions and petitions were disposed of by the Supreme Court during the most recently completed court biennium, 1976-1978. This record-surpassing volume of appellate business represents the largest number of matters disposed in any biennium since the inception of statistical reporting more than a half century ago. An examination of the statistics from the preceding biennium indicates the high workload of the Supreme Court continues.

SUPREME COURT - MATTERS DECIDED

Reporting Biennium	Cases Heard	Motions* Considered	Total Matters Disposed of
1966-1968	290	268	558
1968-1970	256	307	563
1970-1972	297	309	606
1972-1974	292	559	851
1974-1976	398	768	1,166
1976-1978	387	804	1,191

*Including Petitions for Certification.

As the foregoing statistics indicate, there was a massive escalation in the workload of the Supreme Court from the court biennium of 1966-1968 to the comparable biennium a decade later. Specifically, the total matters disposed of increased from 558 (1966-1968) to 1,191 (1976-1978), an increase of 633 dispositions, or 113%.

It is noteworthy that, during the period covered by the table, the number of cases decided increased by 97(from 290 to 387 cases disposed of), or 33%; motions considered increased by 536 (from 268 to 804 motions disposed of), or 200%.

SUPERIOR COURT

JURISDICTION

Prior to July 1, 1978, the Superior Court, a court of general jurisdiction, was composed of 51 judges - 45 trial judges and the 6 justices of the Supreme Court. It had exclusive jurisdiction in the more serious civil and criminal cases, in dissolution of marriage matters, and in appeals from the Juvenile Court and Probate Courts. In addition, the Appellate Session of this court heard most appeals from decisions of the Court of Common Pleas. As a constitutional court, the Superior Court establishes its own rules of practice and procedure.

On July 1, 1978, the Court of Common Pleas and the Juvenile Court were merged with the Superior Court. The Superior Court became the court of original jurisdiction for all causes of action, except actions over which the courts of probate have original jurisdiction. The number of Superior Court judges increased to 118 - 112 trial judges and the 6 justices of the Supreme Court.

APPELLATE SESSION

The Appellate Session of the Superior Court has been in operation since December 31, 1974. The court provided a forum for most appeals from actions decided in the former Court of Common Pleas. Prior to July 1, 1978, the major exceptions to the court's jurisdiction were zoning appeals, which were taken to the Supreme Court by petition for certification, and administrative appeals, which were taken to either the Supreme Court by right or the Appellate Session upon written stipulation of the parties.

The Appellate Session was created to provide a speedy and less expensive forum for the resolution of appeals within its jurisdiction. To promote that end there is no requirement for printed records and briefs. In almost all other respects, however, the Appellate Session follows the rules of appellate procedure established by the Supreme Court.

Each case and motion before the Appellate Session is heard and decided by a panel of three Superior Court judges designated by the Chief Court Administrator. The judges who sit on these panels are responsible for their appellate duties in addition to their regular trial court and administrative assignments.

BIENNIAL STATISTICAL REPORT

FOR APPELLATE SESSION OF SUPERIOR COURT OF CONNECTICUT
For the Period July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1978

	7/1/76 - 6/30/77			7/1/77 - 6/30/78		
	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total
Appeals pending start of period	101	45	146	113	50	163
Appeals added during period	141	58	199	163	60	223
TOTAL CASELOAD FOR PERIOD COVERED	242	103	345	276	110	386
Appeals disposed of by opinion	56	29	85	59	27	86
All other dispositions	73	24	97	65	20	85
TOTAL APPEALS DISPOSED DURING PERIOD	129	53	182	124	47	171
APPEALS PENDING END OF PERIOD	113	50	163	152	63	215
Motions Heard	63	18	81	54	16	70

During the 1976-1978 biennium the Appellate Session disposed of 353 cases and heard 151 motions. At the beginning of the biennium 146 cases were pending on its docket and at its end this pending caseload had risen to 215 cases, a 47.3% increase in two years. Although 12% more cases were added during the 1977-1978 fiscal year than the previous year, there was a 6% decline in the total number of dispositions during this same period. Dispositions by opinion increased slightly during 1977-1978; dispositions by motion or withdrawal decreased by over 12% from the 1976-1977 fiscal year.

The Appellate Session was originally scheduled to be abolished by the court unification act (1976 P.A. No. 436). Subsequently, the court's existence was given a one year extension to June 30, 1979. The above statistics strongly suggest the retention of the Appellate Session of the Superior Court in order to afford relief to the Supreme Court from an even more burdensome caseload.

CIVIL CASES

SUPERIOR COURT - CIVIL DOCKET CASES

Reporting Biennium	Pending Start Of Period	Number Cases Entered	By Trial	Disposed Otherwise	Total	Pending End Of Period
1974-76	31,906*	50,796	3,630	45,481	49,111	33,627
1976-78	32,151*	54,676	3,065	46,209	49,274	37,708
NET CHANGE						
Number of Cases		+3,880	-565	+728	+163	+4,081
% of Change		7.6%	-15.6%	+1.6%	+0.4%	+12.1%

*Number of cases pending adjusted by computer to reflect transfers and other related year-end input.

The 49,274 civil cases disposed of during the recently completed court biennium (1976-78) is slightly higher than the previous court biennium (1974-76) when 49,111 civil cases were disposed.

The 54,676 new civil cases filed during this reporting period were the greatest number of matters entered during any biennium in the history of the Superior Court. Compared to the prior period, this number of cases represents a significant increase of 3,880 cases, or 7.6%.

Despite the effort of the judges to control the civil docket, the number of pending civil cases escalated from 33,627 pending civil cases at the end of 1974-76 to 37,708 pending civil cases at the end of 1976-78 court biennium, an increase of 12%.

TYPES OF CIVIL CASES

Our data processing system routinely generates statistical data concerning the types of civil cases processed in the trial courts. The following statistical information indicates the breakdowns, by percentage, of the civil cases entered on the Superior Court docket during the last court year (July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1978).

SUPERIOR COURT - TYPES OF CIVIL CASES

Family Relations Matters	57.7%
Vehicular Torts	12.4%
Torts, other than vehicular	8.6%
Contract Actions	8.4%
Property, such as foreclosures	6.9%
Miscellaneous, including injunctive relief	4.1%
Administrative Appeals	0.7%
Wills, Estates	0.7%
Eminent Domain	0.5%

CRIMINAL CASES

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL DOCKET CASES

Reporting Biennium	Cases Pending, Start	Cases Added	Cases Disposed	Cases Pending, End	Total Judge Days Sat	Dispositions Per Judge Day Sat
1974-76	2,202	9,496	7,873	3,848	4,343	1.8
1976-78	3,848	8,274	8,236	3,862	5,424	1.5
Net Change						
Number of Cases		-1,222	+363	+14	+1,081	
% of Change		-12.9%	+4.6%	-0.3%	+25.0%	

COMPLETED TRIALS

	COURT	JURY	TOTAL
1974-76	69	203	272
1976-78	79	222	301

In the biennium ending June 30, 1978, there were 1,222 fewer cases added to the criminal docket than in the previous biennium. This reduction was expected because the courts in the geographical areas, at the direction of the state's attorneys, were retaining for prosecution and disposition more class D felonies than in previous years. Total dispositions, however, increased from 7,873 cases in the previous biennium to 8,236 cases, reflecting a continued determination by the judiciary to hasten the disposition process.

In addition, it should also be pointed out that the total number of completed trials (jury and court) rose from 272 completed trials during 1974-76 to 301 completed trials during 1976-78, an increase of 10.6%. The increase in cases disposed of is attributable in large measure to adherence to the rules of procedure adopted to facilitate the flow of criminal cases.

The narrowing of the gap between cases added and disposed is a healthy sign but the increase in cases pending at the end of the current biennium reflects the fact that a more intense case control program is required. As part of the caseflow management program further planning is underway to establish a complete program of case monitoring from date of arrest to date of disposition.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

JURISDICTION

Prior to July 1, 1978, the Court of Common Pleas, a court of limited jurisdiction, was composed of 61 judges - a chief judge and 60 trial judges. The 19* geographical areas had jurisdiction over infractions, motor vehicle violations, criminal misdemeanor and certain felony cases, paternity cases, summary process actions, support matters, transfers of small claims to the regular civil docket, and small claims. The county locations processed appeals from administrative agencies, foreclosures, and civil cases that did not exceed $15,000.

CIVIL CASES

The following table depicts the movement of cases in the two years of the reporting biennium.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CIVIL DOCKET CASES

Court Year 1976-1977	Cases Pending 7-1-76	Added During Year	Dispositions During Year	Cases Pending 6-30-77
G.A. Locations	4,459	14,730	15,012	4,177
Counties	30,876	30,482	29,862	31,496
TOTAL	35,335	45,212	44,874	35,673

Court Year 1977-1978	Cases Pending 7-1-77	Added During Year	Dispositions During Year	Cases Pending 6-30-78
G.A. Locations	4,245**	16,503	16,381	4,367
Counties	31,533**	30,148	28,895	32,786
TOTAL	35,778**	46,651	45,276	37,153

**Figures adjusted to reflect physical inventory of cases, transfers, etc.

Biennium 1976-1978	Total Cases Pending 7-1-76	Total Added During Biennium	Total Dispositions During Biennium	Total Cases Pending 6-30-78
Summary of All Locations	35,335	91,863	90,150	37,153

*G.A. #20, Norwalk, and G.A. #21, Norwich, were added in June, 1978.

The total number of civil cases pending on both the county and G.A. dockets of this court increased from 35,335 cases on July 1, 1976 to 37,153 cases on June 30, 1978, or 5%.

The geographical area civil docket was reduced from 4,459 cases to 4,367, a decrease of 92 cases, or 2%. This good result is attributed to a continuous dormant program and the monthly monitoring of older cases.

The county civil docket increased by 6%, from 30,876 cases on July 1, 1976 to 32,786 cases on June 30, 1978.

CRIMINAL CASES

The total number of cases added to the criminal dockets continued to rise during this biennium. The motor vehicle docket increased quite dramatically, offsetting the slight reduction of criminal cases entered in the first year of the biennium. The following chart depicts these increases and decreases.

CASES ADDED

Statewide	1976-1977	% Change Over Previous Year	1977-1978	% Change Over Previous Year
Motor Vehicle	262,872	+15.7%	322,748	+22.8%
Criminal	86,878	- 4.7%	87,311	+ 0.5%
TOTAL	349,750	+ 9.8%	410,059	+17.2%

The judges of the Court of Common Pleas were able to maintain a fairly current caseload despite the rapid increase in new cases entered; in fact, the judges were able to reduce the number of criminal cases pending during the biennium from 20,564 on July 1, 1976 to 18,583 on June 30, 1978, a reduction in pending cases of over 11%. Even though the motor vehicle inventory of pending cases increased from 19,005 cases at the beginning of the two year period to 22,933 at the end of the period, this 20.6% increase consisted mainly of current cases awaiting payment through the infraction bureau. The reasons for the reduction in backlog are implementation of a case management program and efforts by the judges to dispose of older cases.

SMALL CLAIMS

Small claims filings increased slightly during the first year of the biennium to 95,002, an increase of 407 cases, or less than 1% over the previous year. However, during the second year (1977-1978), compared to the first year, the number of cases entered on the small claims docket dropped

dramatically to 84,968 cases, a reduction of 10,034 cases, or over 10%.

On October 1, 1977, the judges of the Superior Court promulgated new rules for the Small Claims Division of the Court of Common Pleas. These new procedures eliminate unnecessary court appearances in the majority of uncontested cases and provide written notice of judgment to plaintiffs and other modern, less cumbersome procedures. In addition to the new rules, new small claims form packets were developed to provide litigants with easy to read instructions and to provide court personnel with forms that reduce duplicate typing entries. Pursuant to the new rules, the Office of the Chief Court Administrator held 20 public hearings throughout the state to elicit comments on the operations of the Small Claims Court. These hearings provided the Judicial Department with a method to learn directly the people's perception of the Small Claims Court and gain access to the public's suggestions.

As a result of the public hearings, the Chief Court Administrator is planning to hold conferences and seminars for small claims employees and commissioners, to meet with the high sheriffs of each county to improve the collection of judgments, to improve the present small claims instructions to litigants, and to provide an interpretation of the small claims form in Spanish for Spanish-speaking citizens.

Public Act 76-298, effective October 1, 1976, allows attorneys, under certain conditions, to serve as hearing officers in contested small claims cases. The procedure to elect a hearing officer in lieu of a judge is simple. Prior to the hearing of cases, the judge assigned to small claims informs the parties of the options available. In order for an attorney to hear a case, both parties must consent in writing, and once the hearing commences, no one can withdraw without the agreement of both parties. After the hearing, the parties can void the officer's decision if both parties agree.

The program has been implemented statewide. In general, this program has been quite successful because attorneys are presiding over 30% to 60% of the hearings scheduled. As a result, judge time can be used for other matters.

JUVENILE COURT

JURISDICTION

Prior to July 1, 1978, the Juvenile Court, a court of limited jurisdiction for children and youth, was composed of six judges, including a chief judge. The court had exclusive original jurisdiction over all children under age 16 alleged to be delinquent, over all children and youth under age 18 alleged to be neglected, uncared for, or dependent, and in termination of parental rights upon the petition of the commissioner of the Department of Children and Youth Services. Since July 1, 1978, these matters are handled within the Family Division of the Superior Court in fifteen statewide locations.

PROGRAMS

During the biennium 1976-1978, the Juvenile Court continued to provide innovative programs for screening, assessment, and dispositional alternatives for children coming to the attention of the court as the result of antisocial behavior. The activities of the federally funded Case Assessment Unit in the Bridgeport Juvenile Court, the Early Intervention and Treatment Project in New Haven, and the Neighborhood Probation Office in Hartford, were carefully analyzed and were combined into a uniform statewide specialized probation unit, under the direction of the state director of juvenile probation services. The continuing operation of Vocational Probation and "Job Prep" provided the court with dispositional alternatives for children amenable to a work-study program while under the supervision of the court's probation staff.

Under another federally funded program the court operated a Wilderness Camp, with specialized training for probation staff, to provide selected children an opportunity to build self-esteem and confidence in an effort to overcome their antisocial behavior.

In a cooperative effort with the Department of Children and Youth Services, the Juvenile Court continued its participation in the deinstitutionalization of status offenders project, providing for the voluntary removal of status offenders from detention to court-contracted non-secure temporary shelter and community-based counseling services.

During the biennium the court expanded the informational output capacity of its computer-based delinquency information system (JUSTIS) to aid in its efforts toward improving case processing, caseload management, and probation staff management.

DELINQUENCY

1976-77

During the fiscal year 1976-77, the Juvenile Court accepted 12,434 referrals for alleged delinquent acts and disposed of 13,551 referrals. The 13,551 referrals disposed involved 10,299 different juveniles. The number of referrals exceeds the number of children because some children were referred to the court more than once during the year. Of the 10,299 juveniles whose matters were disposed during the year, 7,930, or 77%, were boys and 2,369, or 23%, were girls.

Of the 13,551 referrals, 7,063, or 52%, were judicial (hearing before a judge) and 6,488, or 48%, were non-judicial (by probation staff). These figures reflect at least an 18% increase in judicial dispositions over previous calendar years and a continuing trend of increased judicial dispositions.

1977-78

During the fiscal year 1977-78, the Juvenile Court accepted 13,945 referrals for alleged delinquent acts, 12% more cases than were accepted during the previous fiscal year. The court disposed of 13,601 referrals, which represents a slight increase (50 cases) in cases disposed over the prior fiscal year.

The 13,601 referrals disposed involved 10,466 different juveniles, of whom 8,259, or 79%, were boys and 2,207, or 21%, were girls. Of the 13,601 referrals, 7,292, or 53%, were judicial and 6,309, or 47%, were non-judicial. These figures continue to reflect a continuing demand upon the court for increased judge time for the adjudication and disposition of delinquency cases.

Trends

As the following table indicates, there is a noticeable increase in case dispositions for this biennium coupled with a dramatic increase in judicial dispositions, thereby placing a heavier burden on the court for more judge time and probation staff time for judicial case preparation. The dispositions resulting in commitment or re-commitment to the Department of Children and Youth Services (DCYS) and supervision by the probation staff have continued to remain relatively constant.

DELINQUENCY DISPOSITIONS

1973 - 1977

Year	Total Disp. N	Non-Judicial Disp. N	%	Judicial Disp. N	%
1973*	11,530	8,031	70%	3,499	30%
1974*	12,341	8,925	72%	3,41ᵬ	28%
1975*	11,192	7,409	66%	3,753	34%
1976**	13,551	6,488	48%	7,063	52%
1977**	13,601	6,309	47%	7,292	53%

Selected Disposition Categories

Year	Commitments & Recommitments to DCYS N	%	Supervision by Probation Staff N	%	Dismissed with Warning or Without Action N	%
1973*	414	4 %	1,690	15 %	8,298	72%
1974*	473	4 %	1,623	13 %	8,170	66%
1975*	477	4 %	1,806	16 %	7,548	67%
1976**	472	4.6%	1,721	16.7%	7,229	70%
1977**	512	4.9%	1,880	18 %	7,025	67%

* Calendar Year
** Fiscal Year

NON-DELINQUENCY

Although the total non-delinquency cases are less than 10% of the total delinquency cases, a recent survey indicates that from 35 to 50 percent of judicial time is expended on the adjudication and disposition of non-delinquency cases. The following table reflects the court's continuing effort to maintain a continuous case management program for the disposition of non-delinquency matters.

NON-DELINQUENCY STATISTICS

1976 - 1978

	1976-1977	1977-1978
NEGLECT:		
Pending Start of Year	344	284
Filed During Year	654	674
Disposed During Year	714	669
Pending End of Year	284	289
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS:		
Pending Start of Year	38	44
Filed During Year	151	173
Disposed During Year	145	164
Pending End of Year	44	53
REVOCATION OF COMMITMENTS:		
Pending Start of Year	116	114
Filed During Year	241	235
Disposed During Year	243	279
Pending End of Year	114	70

PROBATE COURT*

Each Court of Probate has been visited by the Probate Court Administrator or his designee at least once during the biennium of 1976-1978. These visits have revealed a significant improvement in the quality of administration and justice. All courts have converted to the microfilm process of records keeping and this results in improved legibility of recorded documents as well as significant safekeeping procedures. Many towns have provided improved offices, hearing rooms, and records storage areas.

The Code of Probate Judicial Conduct was adopted by the Connecticut Probate Assembly and approved by the Probate Court Administrator in January, 1976. The ethics committee of the assembly has rendered 33 opinions on this subject matter as a result of requests from judges or candidates. The code is working well and there are no known violations presently existing.

Regulations

The Probate Court Administrator has issued regulations in accordance with P.A. 77-595, An Act Concerning Revision of Procedures Governing the Commitment of Mentally Ill Persons. These regulations govern court appointed counsel and physicians in commitment proceedings and counsel in probable cause hearings. As required by statutes, the regulations provide a panel of attorneys and a panel of physicians and psychiatrists from which the courts must appoint attorneys to represent indigent respondents in commitment proceedings and physicians to examine these respondents. Payment for these services are made by the State of Connecticut Judicial Department and Mental Health Department.

Data Processing

The data processing system, which was commenced in March of 1976, is well under way. A total of 6,404 estates have been placed on the computer for analysis. It is worth noting that 86% of these estates were processed in less than six months. The average probate charge for the small estates under $5,000 is $24 and, for those estates between $5,000 and $10,000, the average cost is $61.00. A wide range of services is offered by the courts in return for those modest charges. As more estates are placed on the computer, a comprehensive analysis of time spent and costs will be available. This data will be used to continue to improve administration of decedents' estates.

* A report to the Chief Court Administrator by the Hon. Glenn Knierim, Probate Court Administrator, was submitted pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 45-4e.

Connecticut Probate Practice Book

The first supplement to the Connecticut Probate Practice Book was issued in May, 1977. Another supplement will be issued during the calendar year 1979 since work has been completed on revising the first seven rules of probate practice. It is anticipated that these changes will be submitted to the rules committee of the Superior Court in the near future.

New Probate Forms

The forms and procedures committee of the Connecticut Probate Assembly continues to work diligently on new probate forms and appropriate revisions to those which have been in existence for a period of time. During fiscal years 1976-1977 and 1977-1978, new forms were issued by the Office of the Probate Court Administrator in several new areas with revisions to several others. There are now 84 uniform probate court forms in existence.

Legislation

During the 1977 legislative session, the legislature passed and the Governor signed into law important statutes including revised civil commitment procedures, a simplified accounting procedure for decedents' estates when the fiduciary and beneficiary are the same, a process for providing information to parties involved in adoption proceedings, and a complete revision of the statutes governing conservatorships. The 1978 legislative session provided an increase in probate charges which will result in increased earnings for judges of probate and court personnel, as well as the availability of additional funds for the improvement of the probate system. Another major legislative act concerned the provision of inheritance rights for children born out of wedlock.

Minimum Standards for the Office of Judge of Probate

A committee of probate judges is conducting a thorough review of the role and structure of Connecticut's Probate Courts. An extremely important accomplishment by this committee included a set of minimum standards for judges of probate. It was felt by the committee that those who aspire to the office should be aware of the many responsibilities involved, including the establishment of priorities between the office of judge of probate and other commitments as well as a substantial time commitment for continuing judicial education.

Probate Judicial Education

The office of Probate Court Administrator and the Connecticut Probate Assembly provide regular seminar programs for continuing probate judicial education. These programs concentrate on implementation of new legislation and regulations as well as administrative procedures. Special permission was obtained from the Connecticut Bar Association to include non-member probate judges in substantive law courses being offered at the University of Connecticut Law School. Comprehensive seminars covering all aspects of Probate Court activities are scheduled during the month of January, 1979. A new approach to probate judicial education will be instituted in February, 1979, when a course on Trusts and Estates will be offered. The course will concentrate on significant case law and theory in this all important field and will be offered to all judges of probate, with the expense being borne by the Probate Administration Fund.

Financial/Statistics

	1976-77	1977-78
Assessments paid to this office by judges of probate	$557,215.23	$601,674.05
Sale of Connecticut Probate Practice Book & Supplement	11,676.51	7,668.00
Total Expenses	162,790.00	191,767.00
Paid to Probate Retirement Fund	310,600.00	299,326.00
Paid to Retirement Division for administrative services	11,025.00	7,365.00

-IV-

COURT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT

Delay in the court system in Connecticut and in court systems throughout the United States has become a major concern among the public, judges, and other participants in the judicial process. An increasing caseload combined with the limited resources of facilities, time, and the number of judicial personnel has resulted in increased delays, to a point where the court must take dramatic steps to reverse this trend.

The unification of the state trial courts has permitted the development of programs to reduce delay through centralized caseflow management techniques. Caseflow management involves the efficient and systematic movement of cases from filing to final disposition. The goals of caseflow management include:

1. expediting the disposition of all litigation fairly, promptly, and economically;
2. minimizing the uncertainty associated with the processing of court cases;
3. assuring equal access to the adjudicative process for all litigants;
4. enhancing the quality of justice.

The Chief Court Administrator's major priority in the administration of the unified Superior Court is the development of a workable and efficient caseflow management system. Caseflow management techniques will be used in all three divisions of the court (civil, criminal and family). Three caseflow manager positions, one for each division, have been created in the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. The caseflow managers will work closely with the presiding judges in their respective divisions. Their responsibilities include timely monitoring of caseloads throughout the process, pinpointing stages of delay, recommending improvements to curtail delay, and implementing delay reduction techniques. The current changeover to an "on-line" computer system will improve the manager's ability to isolate areas of delay.

Caseflow management techniques have been used in the two trial courts prior to unification. The civil and family annual dormant program and the Court of Common Pleas criminal caseflow management program are examples of these techniques. Results of these programs are outlined below. The unified Superior Court will expand these caseflow management programs to extend to all divisions of the court. The annual dormant program will be developed into a continuous system and the principles of the criminal caseflow program in the former Court of Common Pleas are now being expanded and adapted to the major crimes division of the Superior Court. Time standards from inception to dis-

position are being developed in all court divisions with specific goals established to reduce delay. As the court continues to assume greater responsibility and control for the expeditious movement of all litigation, delay can be reduced.

DORMANT CASES PROGRAM

The annual dormant cases program, originally initiated in the court year 1967-1968, was the principal management program to remove inactive civil cases from the pending docket. It consisted of a thorough review of cases on the trial lists and nontrial lists over a specific age and a concerted effort to dispose of these cases.

IMPACT OF DORMANT CASES PROGRAM ON CIVIL DOCKETS

	NUMBER OF CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF		
Court Year	Superior Court	C.C.P.	Total Cases
1967-1968	3,895	1,060	4,955
1968-1969	2,944	1,292	4,236
1969-1970	3,058	1,094	4,152
1970-1971	3,139	26,952*	30,091
1971-1972	5,879	13,257*	19,136
1972-1973	4,609	9,461*	14,070
1973-1974	4,026	15,717*	19,743
1974-1975	4,647	14,847*	19,494
1975-1976	5,452	5,464	10,916
1976-1977	5,017	8.328	13,345
1977-1978	4,265	8.282	12,547
TOTAL PROGRAM DISPOSITIONS	46,931	105,754	152,685

*Included dispositions in the Circuit Court.

Each year the Chief Court Administrator has notified the trial judges of both courts of the procedures and goals of the dormant case program. A pertinent rule (P.B. Sec. 191A), adopted to facilitate the disposition of dormant cases, reads in part:

> "If a party shall fail to prosecute an action with reasonable diligence, the court may, after hearing .... render a judgment dismissing the action ...."

A procedure to review and dismiss nontrial list cases was adopted statewide during the last year of this biennium. This procedure uses the computer to review all nontrial list cases and automatically dismisses all cases that do not comply with the order of the court, unless exempted by the

court for good cause. This automated approach enables judges and other court personnel to process other matters instead of reviewing cases manually. Analysis confirms that the automated program is as successful as the manual method, resulting in the final disposition of 8,328 dormant nontrial cases, or 76%.

CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT - CRIMINAL

During this biennium, the criminal case management program was extended to all Geographical Areas and became standard operating procedure. To achieve satisfactory results, case monitoring requires the adoption of specific time standards to govern the progress of a criminal case from date of arrest to date of disposition. In addition to time standards, proper caseflow management requires strict control of pre-trial and trial scheduling by the court so that all pending cases are designated for specific actions to take place on certain dates. To further expedite dispositions, continuances of cases are exclusively within the control of the presiding judge and requests are granted by the presiding judge, only upon motion setting forth unusual circumstances.

The combination of time standards with strict scheduling and continuous control by the court resulted in early case preparation by the state and defense counsel, a greater number of dispositions at the pre-trial level, a reduction in the number of witness appearances, and the more effective use of jurors.

There remain some factors that continue to affect the speedy disposition of criminal cases. They include: late receipt of motor vehicle and criminal history information from the Motor Vehicle Department and State Police Bureau of Identification, lack of sufficient prosecutorial personnel for continuous early case screening, and inadequate facilities in many locations.

FAMILY SERVICES

The Judicial Department has long recognized the unique problems created for the courts in the adjudication of domestic relations cases and the important role the courts play in the amelioration of personal, social, and financial problems of individuals and families involved in these cases. To assist in meeting these responsibilities, the department maintains three family service agencies within the Family Division of the Superior Court, which offer a variety of social services to the public and assist the court by providing information essential to the decision-making process. The Judicial Department continues to expand services provided by the three family service agencies and to develop meaningful in-service training and ancillary educational programs for the staffs of these divisions.

FAMILY RELATIONS DIVISION

The Family Relations Division* offers six major service programs, principally in dissolution of marriage cases:

1. Case Study Reports - Upon referral by the court, the background and current circumstances of families are extensively investigated and evaluated and an in-depth report is filed with the court. The case study process predominately concerns questions of child custody and visitation, but may also involve family financial circumstances, removal of one parent from the family residence, and conciliation counseling.

2. Custody/Visitation Mediation - The custody mediation program is used in contested custody and visitation cases. Upon referral by the court in appropriate cases, the parties are brought together with a male/female counseling team for discussion of the issues in a confidential and informal setting. Normally from one to three two-hour sessions are scheduled, and children are frequently included with the parents in such discussions. The counseling team assists the family in focusing on the needs and emotions of all concerned, particularly the children, and the levels of awareness and communication achieved between family members often lead to amicable resolution of the problems. This "dispute-resolution" approach is responsive to the needs of families involved in domestic conflict and is intended to result in more effective and lasting resolutions. The program permits a maximum degree of individual self-determination and involvement in the decision-making process while requiring minimal intervention by the court into private marital relationships.

3. Court Services - This program, commonly referred to as "mediation" of contested issues, involves the attempt to resolve disputed issues ancillary to dissolution of marriage proceedings by amicable agreement through conferences with the parties and their attorneys.

4. Support Enforcement Services - The division provides extensive services to the public in the monitoring and enforcement of compliance with support orders of the court. These services are available to recipients of public assistance as well as to the general public.

5. Supervision of Custody and Visitation - This program involves supportive and counseling services provided on a long-term basis at the direction of the court after custodial placement. The objective of the service is to monitor the situation of the children to insure that their needs are being provided for and to assist the custodial parent in making a successful adjustment to "single-parent" status.

6. Casework Services - This program involves counseling services for problems concerning the custody of children and visitation arrangements. The counseling provided by the division is a short-term, reality-based intervention into family crisis with an emphasis on referral to the appropriate community resource to deal with such long-range or specialized problems as alcohol or drug dependency and serious emotional disorders.

These services are structured to complement rather than compete with or duplicate resources available in the community.

*During the biennium, this division served the Superior Court as formerly constituted.

FAMILY RELATIONS DIVISION STATISTICS

		1976-1977	1977-1978
a.	Case Study Reports Filed with the Court	1,786	1,841
b.	Application to Court (Support Enforcement)	2,672	4,066
c.	Court Conferences	7,287	7,182
d.	Number of Support Enforcement Accounts	11,656	14,505
e.	Collections forwarded to State	$3,213,968.26	$4,012,586.88
f.	Total Support Collections	$7,261,078.51	$8,748,350.12

DOMESTIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Domestic Relations Department* is a court-oriented social service agency primarily concerned with providing assistance to persons involved in the judicial process as a result of a domestic or family-related problem. The primary activity of the department involves the determination, enforcement, and collection of support obligations, as directed by the court, for minor children, elderly parents, and other dependent persons. Extensive services are also provided to the court and the public in the areas of the establishment of paternity, alcohol abuse and alcoholism, and situations involving domestic disturbance or violence. The objective of the department is reconciliation of family and other related problems as an alternative to criminal adjudication.

Services are directed to improve, through counseling intervention and referral to community-based social service agencies, interpersonal relations in the family so that the individual members can better deal with the underlying causes of marital or domestic problems.

*During the biennium, this department served the former Court of Common Pleas.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

		1976-1977	1977-1978
a.	Total Support Collections	$6,824,780.45	$7,453,608.32
b.	Collections Forwarded to State	$2,815,593.59	$3,693,009.06
c.	Total Collection Accounts	11,738	14,084
d.	Warrants-Citations Issued	611	2,068
e.	Cases Referred by Court	14,145	14,400
f.	Reconciliations	1,212	1,063

BUREAU OF SUPPORT

The Bureau of Support* provides support enforcement services pursuant to the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act of 1951. These services are provided in situations where one party is a resident of another jurisdiction and the other party resides in Connecticut. The services are available to recipients of public assistance as well as the general public at no cost.

The caseload of the Bureau of Support is comprised of two distinct categories. The greatest volume is derived from those matters in which the petitioner resides in Connecticut and the respondent is located in a foreign jurisdiction. The second category involves those situations in which the petitioner resides in another jurisdiction and the respondent resides in Connecticut. In these matters the petitioner contacts a court in the other jurisdiction and chat court initiates the request for enforcement services with the Connecticut court.

The duties and responsibilities of the bureau are carried out in ten regional offices throughout the state. These offices coordinate their efforts with those in other jurisdictions to insure a cooperative effort to reduce the serious problems created by the abandonment of dependents in need of support.

*During the biennium, the Bureau of Support was administered by the former Court of Common Pleas.

BUREAU OF SUPPORT STATISTICS

		1976-1977	1977-1978
a.	Total Support Collections	$5,373,816.12	$5,854,436.66
b.	Collections Forwarded to State	$961,685.22	$1,112,562.23
c.	Petitions Filed	3,751	4,217
d.	Total Active Caseload	7,635	8,511

COORDINATED SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

In January, 1975, the Federal Child Support Enforcement Act became effective. This legislation mandated the states to develop statewide comprehensive child support enforcement programs and made available extensive federal resources to locate absent parents and enforce court orders nationally. The act also authorized federal reimbursement of 75% of the costs of program development and expansion at the state and local level.

In September, 1975, the Connecticut Child Support Enforcement Plan was signed by the Governor and approved by federal authorities. It provides for a coordinated statewide child support enforcement effort through cooperative agreements between the Judicial Department, Department of Finance and Control, the Attorney General, and the Department of Social Services. The Judicial Department establishes and enforces child support orders.

It is projected that the three family service divisions, which are now supervised by a single administrative office, will collect over $20,000,000.00 in support payments during 1978-1979 and that approximately $9,500,000.00 of that amount will be returned to the state as recovery for public assistance expenditures to dependent families. The accomplishments of the judicial programs to date not only insures continued federal financial participation, but establishes Connecticut in a position of national leadership in the area of child support enforcement.

JURY ADMINISTRATION

The Jury Administrator is responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of a computerized system for qualifying, summoning, selecting, managing, and utilizing jurors in the state courts. He also has authority to implement procedures to improve jury administration in order to reduce costs of selection and management of jurors and to use jurors more effectively.

COMPUTERIZATION

Commencing in October, 1976, names selected by the 169 town jury committees as prospective jurors were entered into a computerized data base. The inclusion of Fairfield, Litchfield, and New Haven counties into the system marked the inception of a computerized jury system on a statewide level. Since that time, this system, under central control, has qualified and selected jurors to serve at jury trial locations throughout the state.

As a major component of the system, the remote computer terminal allows instant access and update of the juror data base. As each succeeding phase of this system comes into being, the overall management of the system, from selection to service, becomes increasingly effective.

Valuable by-products of the computer system include statistics that provide the court with complete information on the availability of prospective jurors from each town within the court's jurisdiction. The attendance procedures record the excuse rate of jurors summoned and the various reasons for excuse. These tools are instrumental in determining the number of jurors to summon on a given court date. A computerized postponement procedure automatically reallocates any juror whose term was postponed for various reasons. This helps prevent depletion of the prospective juror list.

The computerized system relieves the courts from former time-consuming manual tasks in the qualification and selection of jurors. The overall management of these jurors is being enhanced by the attendance and payroll phases while anaylsis of the statistical data promotes improved techniques in juror utilization.

JURY UTILIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

In a concentrated effort to improve the utilization and management of jurors in the state courts, the Judicial Department was awarded a federal grant which began in January

1977, and was one of 18 such projects throughout the country. The overall goals of the project were: reduction of waiting time for jurors, reduction of expenses by improving the efficiency of the management process in the courts, and improvement of facilities for jurors.

An extensive data collection and analysis effort was carried on in the five test court sites, using as a guideline a similar pilot project conducted the previous year at the New Haven Superior Court. The effort focused on vital areas such as: source lists, voir dire practices, pool and panel sizes, panel calls spaced over the court day, and the condition of juror facilities. The results of the data collection and analysis, along with 18 recommendations, were published in December, 1977, and distributed to judges, administrators, legislators, and the media. The report also detailed management techniques aimed at solving existing problems and strengthening good administrative practices. Later, it was noted that some courts improved their juror efficiency markedly. The Hartford Superior Court was operating at 35% utilization in March-June, 1977, and 47% utilization during the same time period in 1978. This improvement can be attributed not only to suggested changes but to intensive workshops made available to jury personnel under the project.

Efforts to improve juror facilities were also an important element of the project. Waiting rooms for jurors were repainted, bulletin boards were added, television sets were purchased, and a library service was established to supply jurors with magazines and books. Efforts were made to improve juror parking facilities.

Public information was a major component of the project. A 26-minute color film was produced in July, 1977, and replaced an outdated New York orientation film. Copies of the new film, "The Jury, Those Who Serve," together with projectors, were distributed to all Superior Courts. The juror handbook was redesigned and updated to impart vital information to jurors in a more readable and understandable style.

While the new film and handbook were primarily designed as the core of a comprehensive orientation program, they were also used for public information. A lecture program specifically designed around the film was developed in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Education. The purpose of the lecture program is to educate students in an important aspect of our legal system and to inform potential jurors of the necessity to participate in the system. If potential jurors know more about actual jury service, they should be more willing to serve. The lecture program, delivered by jury administration personnel, is expected to reach a majority of the state's high school seniors.

RESTITUTION SERVICE

In September, 1976, the Judicial Department was awarded a two-year grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration for the purpose of implementing an experimental restitution service for the judges of the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas. The Restitution Service has been providing the administrative machinery to implement more fully the sentencing alternative of restitution.

If the Restitution Service receives a request from the court, it can provide a number of services: (1) an investigation can be conducted to determine whether restitution is feasible in a given case based on characteristics of the offender and the offense; (2) if restitution appears to be feasible, an assessment of the victim's loss can be made to determine how much restitution could be made by the offender; (3) after a loss assessment is made, a restitution proposal can be developed that could be used at the court's discretion in sentencing. These proposals might suggest financial restitution or symbolic restitution. If the court orders a defendant to make restitution, the Restitution Service, in some cases, may assist the defendant in obtaining referrals for employment or community service. Accounting services are provided for transfer of restitution payments from defendants to victims and to monitor performance of both financial and symbolic restitution.

The Restitution Service commenced operation on May 3, 1977. As of June 30, 1978, the Restitution Service handled 203 requests, and $172,860.00 in financial restitution and 1146 hours in symbolic restitution were ordered.

The 1978 General Assembly appropriated funds to continue the Restitution Service. Public Act 78-188, which extends the court's ability to order restitution, was enacted. The act allows a restitution investigation prior to conviction, if the prosecution and defense counsel agree, to determine an accused's ability to provide financial restitution.

CENTRAL LAW CLERK POOL

For a long time, there has been a clear need for additional staff to assist the trial court judges with legal research tasks. Before July 1, 1978, although some assistance was available to the judges of the Superior Court through the Judicial Department's law clerk program, there was no formal provision for law clerks for the judges of the Court of Common Pleas or the Juvenile Court. Moreover, the four recent law school graduates appointed by the Chief Court Administrator to serve as law clerks to the Superior Court could barely serve the needs of the forty-five judges on that court, let alone provide adequate assistance to one hundred twelve trial court judges in a merged Superior Court.

The idea of a law clerk pool was conceived as a response to the evident need for additional support staff for the trial court judges and the reality of limited financial resources to provide such staff. By centralizing the legal research function in one office and imposing certain administrative controls, greater efficiency and economy of scale are achieved. The ultimate goal is to provide service to all trial court judges, in all geographic locations, and in all types of matters.

In April, 1978, the Judicial Department was awarded a federal grant by the Connecticut Justice Commission to establish a pool of law clerks to perform legal research for all trial court judges. The pool is headed by an experienced attorney and employs eleven law clerks paid with grant funds, in addition to the four law clerks that are state funded. The pool offices are located in New Haven, which was chosen because it is geographically central and has excellent library facilities available. Proximity to complete law collections makes the pool an important resource for trial judges who do not have convenient access to well-equipped law libraries.

The law clerk pool operates in the following manner: At least one law clerk is assigned to assist the judge assigned to short calendar in each judicial district. Generally, the law clerks attend the short calendar session so that they can pick up files and be able to discuss the case with the judge. If the judge needs research assistance, the law clerk is "on-site" to assist him. For assistance with any other matter, a judge only has to call or write the staff director, who immediately assigns a law clerk to work on the judge's project. In most cases, the law clerk drafts a memorandum summarizing his research, which is forwarded to the judge. The law clerk can meet with the judge to discuss the research problem. In certain cases, the research results are conveyed to the judge orally or by phone. This is particularly important when time is of the essence; for example, when a judge is on trial. Law clerks are also available for

"special assignment" to a judge involved in a complex case. In these matters, the judge can use the assigned clerk as a personal law clerk for the duration of the trial.

There are other advantages to a central law clerk pool. The expertise of the law clerks in various specialized areas of law can be tapped by the staff director. Because the staff director monitors all research projects which come into the office and because files on all projects are being established, recurring problems can be handled easily and quickly. In addition, the pool provides the capacity to respond to priority requests; e.g., those of a judge on trial. Centralization and coordination also make it possible and economical to consider using certain technological improvements, such as word-processing and computerized legal research, in the future.

Through the law clerk pool the Judicial Department is providing every trial judge in the state of Connecticut with access to trained support staff. Although some administrative changes in the manner in which legal research assistance is made available to trial court judges have occurred due to the centralization of research assistance resources in one office, there are no significant changes in the roles and responsibilities of the judge and his law clerk. The major improvement is in the ability to extend legal research assistance to every trial judge through the use of a centrally located pool. Judges who utilize the services of the staff pool fully will be able to devote more time to handling the increasing caseloads.

JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Judicial Department has continued to maintain its existing computerized systems and to examine their sufficiency in terms of current technology and the needs of the court.

CIVIL SYSTEM (JURIS I)

The civil system, which has been operational in the Superior Court and the county clerk's offices of the Court of Common Pleas since the early 1970's, tracks each civil case and produces all the documentation (trial lists, assignment lists, motion lists, docket sheets, index cards, attorney appearance notices) needed to operate the civil side of these courts. In addition, the system generates periodic statistical reports which assist management in monitoring court caseloads, assigning cases and judges, and updating dockets.

A major expansion of the present system is in the developmental stage. When operational, it will track cases through the appellate process, perform clerical functions, and generate managerial, exceptional, and operational information that will contribute significantly to the orderly progression of cases on appeal.

CRIMINAL SYSTEM (JURIS II)

The Judicial Department has continued to participate with criminal justice agencies (the state and local police, the Department of Correction, the Motor Vehicle Department) in planning a criminal justice information system (CJIS) of which the Judicial Department's future criminal system will be a component. A CJIS policy board oversees the development of this criminal justice system, for which federal funding has been made available. The CJIS policy board consists of the commissioners of the agencies involved and the Chief Court Administrator representing the Judicial Department.

Although the Judicial Department and the other agencies will each develop its own component subsystem, it is the goal of the CJIS policy board that the subsystems, added together, will comprise a total criminal justice information system. This will permit the entry of necessary data into the system only once, eliminating the repetitive effort that would be required if each agency's system was completely independent. It will also allow sharing of certain information among the agencies involved. The system will provide more accurate and timely criminal history information to the courts; and the caseload management and clerical benefits similar to those achieved with the civil computer system will be realized.

JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM (JUSTIS)

The Juvenile Court information system (JUSTIS) has been operating since January, 1975, as a batch statistical and research system. Information is collected monthly on all delinquency referrals received and disposed and the juveniles involved, and is processed at the University of Connecticut Social Science Data Center at Storrs.

Reports on cases, offenses, and juveniles are produced periodically, and the data base is made available for special analyses. Privacy and confidentiality of the juveniles is insured through the use of an identifying number which is assigned each juvenile and is the key to the computer record.

At present, the juvenile system is being reassessed with a view toward enhancing its usefulness as a caseload management tool and expanding its scope.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY FOR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES

The use of computer technology to improve the management of the judicial process has demonstrated its effectiveness. In recognition of this fact, in the spring of 1977 the Department established a Judicial Information Systems unit, within which all its data processing services were consolidated.

At the same time, the Office of the Chief Court Administrator applied for and was admitted to membership in the national State Judicial Information Systems Project (SJIS). This federally funded project, with 22 member states, is engaged in identifying the management information needs of court administrators and developing a model system to satisfy those requirements. Grants of $400,000 over a two-year period are available to participating states to assist them in developing prototype systems.

The Judicial Department was awarded an SJIS grant for the year beginning October 1, 1978. This work is part of a comprehensive plan which includes modernization of the present civil system to accommodate court unification and development of new homologous juvenile, criminal, and appellate modules. The resulting system should provide court administrators at all levels with necessary timely information that can be used to manage the courts and successfully implement court unification.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING

Research and planning are relatively new concepts in court administration. The Judicial Department, among the first state judicial agencies to establish such a capacity, has continued to exhibit strong support for this function during the last biennium. With reorganization of Connecticut's judicial system, a host of questions, issues, and projects arose which have occupied the major portion of the research and planning unit's time for the past two years.

A continuing function of the research and planning staff is to assist in the development, implementaiton, evaluation, and administration of federally funded projects. The increasing proliferation of federal programs, guidelines, and regulations, coupled with increasing competition for funds, has required additional effort to ensure that funding is acquired for significant projects and that funds are expended in a proper and consistent manner.

The research and planning staff also perform various functions with respect to analysis of identified problem areas, collection and analysis of data, development of alternative strategies, assistance in the implementation of selected strategies, and evaluation of projects and programs.

FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

Over three and one-half million dollars were awarded to the Judicial Department to implement over twenty-five separate projects designed to enhance and improve the operations of the Connecticut judicial system during the 1976-1978 biennium. These funds are important not only because they represent additional resources but also because they provide the Judicial Department with increased flexibility to develop and test new concepts.

The following is a brief description of various projects and programs undertaken during the biennium.

Court Administration Projects

Two projects were developed to improve jury administration. The first, computerized jury selection, established

efficient and effective screening procedures which ensure that the jury selection process is random. Cost savings are accomplished through the use of automated data processing techniques. The jury utilization and management project focused on new techniques to ensure that the number of jurors called would be sufficient and that no more jurors were called than absolutely necessary. Improvements in facilities and equipment and an increase in the knowledge of jurors concerning their role in the trial setting were also accomplished under this grant. Both projects, by the time the federal awards terminated, were operating on a statewide basis.

Other projects include the rules committee staff which provided full-time counsel to this extremely important permanent committee. Major revisions of the criminal and civil rules of procedures could not have been accomplished as expeditiously without professional staff. A similar type of project, model jury instructions, will develop a comprehensive set of instructions which judges may use as a resource in charging juries. The judicial research grant focused upon the development of an information system for juvenile matters. A fairly comprehensive "batch processing" system for the collection and analysis of data relevant to managers and policy makers was established. A project emphasizing case management of the dockets of the Supreme Court and the Appellate Session of the Superior Court is currently attempting to apply sophisticated research methods to develop an appellate information system and to design management techniques which will ensure the expeditious movement of cases. This effort has achieved considerable success already and has resulted in Connecticut's inclusion in a national scope project focusing on appellate justice improvement conducted by the National Center for State Courts. As part of the national project, Connecticut is the first state in the nation to conduct a scientifically evaluated demonstration program of pre-argument settlement conferences for civil appeals.

The long term needs of the Judicial Department for information are being addressed by two projects which will provide for a fully automated data processing system for virtually all aspects of the judicial system. The JURIS II project is the judicial component of a larger criminal justice information system which, when completed, will enable cases to be tracked from arrest to release. The state judicial information system will provide aggregate statistics on the number of cases at each processing stage, the length of case processing by stage, and the time which has elapsed between stages. These two systems will help caseflow managers to identify and remedy case backlog and delay. The judicial education program established a permanent capacity within the department to develop, implement, and assess education offerings. A second project, Judicial Department staff development, is continuing to provide resources to

carry on training and education programs for personnel within the agency. The increasing emphasis on the creation of an in-state capability to perform the majority of staff development activities will ensure that departmental personnel will have the opportunity to remain current with respect to the expanding areas of law and administration on a cost effective basis.

Two additional programs were designed to address major needs of the judiciary. The first, victim restitution, was developed to provide judges with the necessary information concerning convicted defendants' ability to make restitution to their victims. A second project, the central legal research unit, created a pool of staff attorneys who assist judges with research tasks. This is an innovative and cost effective method of providing this necessary support service.

Juvenile Court Projects

Fiscal 1976 was the final year of grant funding for three pilot probation projects, the case assessment unit, the early intervention and treatment project, and the neighborhood probation office, all initially implemented by the Juvenile Court in 1974. The case assessment unit grant permitted the Juvenile Court to establish and operate a specialized intake and assessment unit in its Bridgeport office with the goal of improving case screening and management. The early intervention and treatment project, operating in the court's New Haven office, supported a clinical evaluation team to assist the judges and court staff in determining appropriate dispositional alternatives for the court's most difficult cases, provided intensive counseling, and arranged for diversion to community services for a selected group of young and minor offenders. The neighborhood probation office in Hartford was designed to reduce delinquency and improve court services in a high delinquency urban neighborhood. In fiscal 1977, the most successful features of each of the pilot probation projects were combined in a statewide specialized probation units grant. Under the specialized probation units grant, intake units were established in the Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport offices of the Juvenile Court to screen referrals and improve detention, intake, and non-judicial case management; and field units were developed in the same court offices specializing in the supervision and counseling of probationers.

The Juvenile Court received grant funding for two projects designed to assist juveniles on probation in developing employment skills and experience. Both projects, "job prep" and vocational probation, were designed to reduce recidivism and to provide an alternative to institutional placement for a group of repeat juvenile offenders. During this biennium, the Judicial Department also received funding for four Juvenile Court probation projects designed to in-

crease the variety and effectiveness of the court's dispositional alternatives.

As part of Connecticut's participation in the deinstitutionalization of status offenders project, the Juvenile Court was awarded funds to establish a crisis intervention project in the New Haven and Montville detention centers, with the goal of diverting the status offenders from detention and resolving the immediate family crisis. A current project, temporary shelter, continues the philosophy of deinstitutionalization of status offenders by providing shelter care to those in need of immediate placement in community-based agencies.

Four Juvenile Court probation projects were funded during the biennium to increase the court's dispositional alternatives. The YWCA intervention project grant provided counseling and recreational programs for female juvenile offenders. The Bridgeport office of the Juvenile Court established a Hispanic counseling program which provided intensive group counseling for a small group of Hispanic juvenile probationers. A project entitled Pine View provided group camping experiences and outdoor work projects for probationers. Another grant project, Challenge, used outdoor leadership programs to develop self-confidence and improve the self-concept of probationers. A more comprehensive program, outdoor leadership, using the same techniques of the Challenge and Pine View projects, continues to operate.

In fiscal 1976, grant monies were used by the court to fund the position of director of juvenile probation services, to coordinate and to promote uniformity in Juvenile Court practices and procedures. The position of director of juvenile probation services became statutory in 1977, and grant funds were awarded to the Judical Department in 1978 to create the position of assistant director of juvenile probation services.

Prosecution Projects

The Division of Criminal Justice has undertaken to increase the capacity of the prosecutorial function in Connecticut to perform efficiently and effectively and to improve the responsiveness of the division to the citizens of the state. A project, improvement of prosecutorial services, increased the capability of prosecution at the geographical area level to investigate cases. The Office of the Chief State's Attorney prepared the law enforcement officer's field manual. This publication, distributed to all full-time police officers in the state, clearly and concisely sets forth the elements of the criminal code in a manner that permits its use at the time an arrest is contemplated.

The economic crime unit established a statewide capacity to investigate and prosecute consumer fraud and white collar crime cases. These cases usually require lengthy and specialized investigations followed by protracted prosecution. This project has been so successful that the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration has awarded it "Exemplary Project" status, only one of approximately five such awards made annually nationwide. A second effort, the career criminal program is attempting to provide additional resources for the expeditious prosecution of serious chronic offenders.

The Division of Criminal Justice has undertaken a project designed to inform and assist individuals who find themselves involved in the prosecution of a criminal case. The victim-witness trial management bureau is providing information to both groups about the status of the case, when to appear, their roles in the process, and the services available to them. Another project, improvement of prosecution administration, will provide the Office of the Chief State's Attorney with assistance in implementation of existing programs, evaluation of current efforts, and development of new techniques.

Congress, concerned about nationwide reports of abuses in the Medicaid health care system, authorized the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to award funds to establish a capacity to investigate and prosecute Medicaid fraud and abuse and the Division of Criminal Justice has received one of these awards. The medicaid fraud unit will also investigate allegations of patient abuse and neglect and, where no criminal prosecution is indicated, will make referrals to the appropriate state agency for resolution of the problem.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

In 1973 the judicial education office was created to develop programs and materials that respond directly to the expressed needs of the court system. For the biennium 1976-1978, education and training efforts have focused on court unification, which occurred on July 1, 1978. These efforts were in addition to the regular continuing education program which has been expanding rapidly in each year of its operation.

The major facets of the continuing education operation are briefly summarized. They reflect the clear commitment of the Judicial Department to excellence in educational programming for all its members. Connecticut is one of a small number of states with a judicial education operation which is permanently staffed and it has been recognized as having the most comprehensive program of any state court system of its size.

COURT UNIFICATION

The merger of the different court systems into a unified Superior Court required that judges renew their legal skills in different areas of law and procedure and that other court personnel acquire new functions.

A major judicial education seminar focused on family law for all judges of the Court of Common Pleas. This seminar addressed issues of jurisdiction, support and alimony, child custody, visitation and tax aspects of separation and dissolution. Several experienced Superior Court judges acted as faculty for the seminar and extensive written materials were provided to all participants.

A two-part orientation on juvenile matters was held prior to implementation of the court merger. The initial component consisted of an introduction to the personnel and operations at the juvenile facility where each new judge would be sitting. The second part was a review of relevant statutes, rules of procedure, and cases. In addition to the judges and court staff, participants included staff of the Department of Children and Youth Services, public defenders and court advocates. A meeting was also held for the administrative judges of the judicial districts.

Members of the judiciary participated in a January, 1978 Symposium on Unification of the Courts that was co-sponsored by the Judiciary Committee of the General Assembly and the Advisory Council for the Unification of the Courts. An additional series of programs were designed to assist the admin-

istrative implementation of the merger. These meetings were held for various court support personnel including family relations officers, juvenile probation officers, and clerks of court.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

During the biennium, the number and scope of continuing education programs and materials expanded. Continuing education is considered extremely important and programs are now being held monthly.

Judges

Building upon the formal orientation program held for new appointees, continuing judicial education provides judges with an opportunity to maintain knowledge of current legal thought, sharpen legal skills, and improve their ability to efficiently manage large caseloads. Judicial education has consisted of orientation programs, seminars, conferences, workshops, and the provision of reference materials. Specific program topics have included family law, recent cases and trends of the United States Supreme Court, the revised civil rules of practice, mental health law, and caseflow management. Judges have also attended programs on proposed juvenile justice standards, obscenity law, evidence, and American and British systems of justice. Some judges have attended several national programs for trial judges in order to gain personal expertise and to facilitate their acting as faculty for subsequent state programs.

Clerks of Court

Seminars for court clerks have been held on diverse administrative matters in order to ensure the continued efficiency of court operations. Programs have dealt with small claims procedures, summary process, infractions, collective bargaining, caseflow management, and recently enacted statutes and rules. In what may be the only program of its kind in the country, a five-part series on court management has been initiated for the clerk of court in each judicial district. Experts from national court organizations, private corporations, and public agencies are assisting the Judicial Department in improving the clerks' knowledge and use of management principles in personnel management, jury administration, case flow management, record control and fiscal matters.

Family Relations Officers and Juvenile Probation Officers

Many programs have been held for family relations officers and juvenile probation officers. In addition to

meetings to discuss administrative issues, these groups have designed programs on learning disabilities, child abuse and neglect, counseling services, and custody mediation. A public forum on "The Divorce Experience" was conducted by the Family Relations office in April, 1978. The forum increased public awareness of the issues and of possible solutions to problems of divorce. It was attended by more than 350 persons including attorneys, medical practitioners, family counselors, and other specialists.

State's Attorneys

Continuing education programs for state's attorneys and other members of the Criminal Justice Division have been supported by the Judicial Department. One prominent program was a public forum on the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases. Participants included prosecutors, health professionals, rape crisis counselors, and members of public organizations. Another program was an intensive, two-day workshop on search and seizure. Also, several persons attended national seminars on trial advocacy, evidence, and organized crime.

Materials

An important aspect of the Judicial Department's continuing education effort has been the development of extensive reference materials to assist the judiciary and other personnel in their work. Written materials include outlines, manuals, bibliographies, and indexes. Committees of clerks and juvenile probation officers have issued new manuals. A compilation of penal code statutes and an index to recent state court decisions have been produced. Existing materials for family relations officers and judges have been updated and expanded to ensure continued reliability. Special compilations of written material were prepared to support the various judicial seminars.

A large cassette library has been developed. It currently consists of more than 100 tapes on 50 different subjects. Several videotapes have been added recently to this library. The audio visual training materials have proven to be very useful as an orientation resource for newly appointed members of the judiciary and it is anticipated that additional tapes will be developed in the future.

SUMMARY

During the two-year period of this report, more than sixty education programs were made available to Judicial Department personnel. The total number of persons who attended these programs exceeded 1,500.

The importance of these figures is that they reflect the unwavering commitment of the department to provide a comprehensive continuing education program. The basic precept supporting this commitment is that through a knowledgeable, trained, experienced staff of judges and support personnel the court system will be better able to ensure that the quality of justice and service provided Connecticut's citizens is maintained in the face of constantly increasing demands.

COURTHOUSE FACILITIES

PREPARATION AND PLANNING

The Judicial Department is actively engaged in fifteen major capital projects to construct new courthouses and, where feasible, to modernize and enlarge existing structures. New or additional facilities are needed in some areas, and in others there are some facilities which are overcrowded and sometimes undignified. They reflect adversely on the entire judicial system.

This extensive courthouse facilities program calls for maximum preparation and planning. Preparation and planning require constant attention to (1) requesting funds from the General Assembly and utilizing wisely the authorized appropriations, (2) solving complex problems of site acquisition, (3) developing a schedule of accommodations and design standards for each project, and (4) meeting frequently with officials of the Department of Administrative Services, local authorities, architects, and engineers concerning plans and specifications for each courthouse project.

BUILDING PROGRAM

The Judicial Department's plan to upgrade its courthouse facilities is structured into a four-year building program. The priority assigned to each of the fifteen major capital projects is the result of a number of factors, including immediate need for additional space, shortcomings of existing facilities, availability of legislative funding and land for a new or leased building, and the stage reached in the preparation of plans for construction. High priorities reflect, therefore, a junction of both need and a potential for realization.

The three most pressing projects are: the new criminal courthouse to serve the Judicial District and Geographical Area #14, Hartford; the Second District Juvenile Court and Detention Center, located in the New Haven area; and the Geographical Area #12 courthouse at Manchester. Existing facilities for these courts are woefully inadequate. The need for new criminal court facilities is of paramount importance, as is the demand for detention facilities in New Haven, where youths held in detention must currently be sent to facilities at Montville, Hartford, and Bridgeport. This latter situation creates extreme hardships for parents, attorneys, and court personnel. The criminal court is in the planning stage, and plans are progressing for the Juvenile Court. The proposed courthouse serving Geographical Area #12 at Manchester will proceed into the construction phase in early 1979.

New court facilities are proposed for the Judicial Districts of Danbury and Litchfield, including Geographical Area #3 and Geographical Area #18,respectively. Land already has been acquired in Danbury, and site selection is advancing for the courthouse to serve the Judicial District of Litchfield. Site selection and plans are also in progress at New London and Norwich to serve the Judicial District of New London, including Geographical Area #10 and Geographical Area #21,respectively. Existing court facilities here are among the most inadequate in the state. The courthouse at New London is one of the oldest facilities in the United States that is still in daily use and the courthouse in Norwich is extremely congested. The completion of modern and efficient courthouses in these two towns is of major importance to the Judicial Department.

In addition to the new buildings, it is vitally important that the older courthouses, which lend themselves to modernization and which can be brought into conformity with state and national building and fire codes, should continue to be used. In this regard, it is important to provide for handicapped and elderly persons at all of our courthouses. Many older buildings lack sufficient toilet facilities and elevators and the numerous staircases create severe access problems. The courthouse facilities at 75 Elm Street, Hartford, at Waterbury, serving Geographical Area #4, and at New Haven, serving Geographical Area #6, require complete renovation and modernization. The existing judicial district courthouse at Hartford, which will be used for processing civil cases when the criminal courthouse is completed, also requires complete renovation and, in order to provide additional courtrooms and office areas, a substantial addition.

The existing judicial district courthouses at Stamford and Waterbury require substantial additions. These two buildings were constructed, respectively, in 1955 and 1974, and renovation of the existing plant is not necessary. The Judicial Department also proposes to establish a statewide Records Center at Dix Hall, an abandoned building on the grounds of the Connecticut State Valley Hospital. The building requires renovation in order to be adapted to suit its special purpose.

The funding of the capital program has been divided into a four-year framework. Funds required in the first year are approximately $14 million, in the year 1980-81, $4.2 million, in 1981-82, approximately $4 million, and $10.5 million in 1982-83.

We are committed to the new court system and plan to come to grips with the common complaints, including inadequate and undignified facilities, that have bedeviled the judicial system and tarnished its image. Accordingly, the

principal aim of this capital building program is to improve the dignity of the physical surroundings of the Superior Court, as well as to provide additional courtrooms and court-related office space urgently needed to insure the continued processing of court business at high levels of judicial performance.

SECURITY

Security continues to cause deep concern to the Judicial Department. Recent breaks into courthouses, attacks on personnel, and threats to persons and property make it imperative that immediate steps be taken to provide adequate protection. Greater security in the form of increased manpower must be made available during the actual operation of the courts. Continuous and constant supervision and security must be provided to protect the valuable property, records, and personnel not only of the State but also of employees. This will require installation of costly detection equipment and adequate surveillance.

Cognizant of the explosive potential of our times, and the danger to which public officials and institutions are exposed, the Chief Court Administrator, in 1970, appointed a special committee to look into the security requirements of the judiciary. Thereafter, legislation was proposed to the 1972 Session of the General Assembly to provide an effective security program for the protection of State courthouses, court personnel, and the public, but it was not enacted.

Only two years ago, Connecticut's citizenry were appalled and angered by a shooting attack on police officers and bystanders in the lockup area of the Geographical Area court facility in Waterbury. When the violence was over, three law enforcement officers and one public defender lay wounded by a suspect awaiting a court appearance on a weapons charge. On other occasions, judges have been threatened, court proceedings have been interrupted by disorders, and prisoners have escaped. Sufficient funding for an effective security program is urgently needed to preclude other, more serious, situations in court buildings.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

CAPITAL PROJECTS OUTSTANDING AS OF 1-1-79

Priority Number	STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS Project Number and/or Description	PRESENT STATUS OF FUNDING Total Authorized Funds	Estimated Project Cost	Net Funds Required
1	BI-JD-28, Hartford Construction of Criminal Courts Building.	$10,000,000	$10,971,000	$971,000
2	BI-JD-11, New Haven Juvenile Court & Detention Center for District.	$3,585,000	$3,511,500	--
3	BI-JD-56, Manchester, G.A. #12, Renovation of acquired building.	$1,300,000	$1,305,000	$5,000
4	BI-JD-48, Danbury Courthouse Complex.	$4,380,000	$4,375,000	--
5	Provisions for handicapped in Courthouses.	$50,000	$1,600,000	$1,550,000
6	BI-JD-49, Courthouse for Litchfield Judicial District.	450,000	$6,030,000	5,580,000
7	Records Center, Dix Hall,Middletown.	$215,000	$210,000	--
8	Court facilities in Norwich.	$2,000,000*	$4,864,000	$2,864,000
9	Addition to Judicial District Courthouse in New London.	$2,000,000*	$4,914,000	$2,914,000
10	Renovations at 75 Elm St., Hartford.	$ 679,000	$1,036,000	$357,000
11	Addition to Judicial District Courthouse in Waterbury.	NONE	$1,625,600	$1,625,600
12	Renovation of G.A. #6 Courthouse, New Haven.	NONE	$2,504,000	$2,504,000
13	Addition to Fairfield Judicial District Courthouse in Stamford.	NONE	$992,000	$992,000
14	BI-JD-52, Hartford. Renovations and additions to Judicial District Courthouse (Civil).	NONE	$10,209,000	$10,209,000
15	Renovation of G.A. #4 Courthouse, Waterbury.	NONE	$1,085,000	$1,085,000
	Acquisition of courthouse, 172 Golden Hill St., Bridgeport.	$5,000,000		

* $4,000,000 apportioned equally between New London and Norwich.

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RECOMMENDED LEGISLATION

SECURITY

It is recommended that sufficient funds be appropriated to provide an effective and adequate security program for the protection of judges and court personnel, the public, and the courthouses.

JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

In order to attract dedicated, hard-working, and qualified persons to judicial service, it is essential that the level of judicial compensation be on a par with that of successful lawyers in the community. As the Commission on Compensation of Elected State Officials and Judges stated in its 1976 Biennial Report to the General Assembly, "service as a judge is a career and should be treated as such with regular salary increases granted for continued satisfactory service."

The salaries of judges have fallen significantly behind the rising cost of living. A fair compensation level for judges should be enacted into law and, thereafter, judicial salary increases should be automatic, based upon increases in the cost of living index.

JUROR COMPENSATION

It is recommended that the per diem rate of compensation for jurors be increased from $10 to $20, and that the amount of reimbursement for each mile traveled from the place of residence to the place of court and return be increased from ten to fifteen cents. If parking is not available at the court location where the juror must appear, it is recommended that each juror also be reimbursed up to a maximum of $6 per day for the actual cost of parking the vehicle driven to court.

STATEWIDE JURY COMMISSIONERS

Presently, there are as many as five jury commissioners for each of the eight counties, all performing similar and unwieldly functions which are often subject to attack in court. It is recommended that the jury commissioners be replaced by a statewide committee of jury commissioners consisting of one elector from each county. Each jury commissioner would be paid $30 a day, but not more than $600 annually. The adoption of this legislation would greatly expedite the juror qualification process, reduce costs and limit challenges to the array based on selection methods.

NUMBER OF JURORS - JURY ADMINISTRATOR

The number of jurors chosen annually by the county jury commissioners is limited by law to a prescribed number of

persons for each town, a number which depends upon the town's population based on the last United States census. In order to avoid depletion in the number of persons available for jury duty during the course of a year, it is crucial that legislation be enacted to permit the jury administrator to be able to increase the number of jurors chosen from towns within a judicial district, based on the clerk's estimate of the number of jurors needed.

SELECTION OF JURORS FOR JURY CASES (VOIR DIRE)

The laws governing juror selection in jury cases are antiquated, unnecessarily extending the time it takes to select a jury and impeding our efforts to dispose of cases fairly and expeditiously. It is of utmost importance that Section 51-240 of the General Statutes be amended to repeal the absolute right of each party to examine prospective jurors outside of the presence of other prospective jurors and to allow such procedure only at the court's discretion.

A consultant wrote the State Jury Commissioner that "the voir dire examination of individuals outside the presence of other prospective jurors, as used in Connecticut, is not used routinely in other courts except for some infrequent capital or notorious trials," that the method "seems extremely wasteful in voir dire time, and in related court, attorney, and juror costs in comparison to group voir dire methods used elswehere" and "is extremely burdensome, economically and physically, to those citizens called in to serve the courts," as reflected in their attitudes.

PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES

Favored also are legislative changes which would reduce the number of peremptory challenges (challenges for which no cause need be shown) available to each party and allow the court, in its discretion, to consider several defendants or several plaintiffs as a single party for the purpose of making challenges so as to avoid one side of a controversy from having an unfair advantage.

VERDICT BY JURY OF LESS THAN SIX (CIVIL CASES)

To avoid the necessity of selecting alternate jurors, legislation is favored which would allow the parties in a civil action to agree that a verdict, in the absence of the sixth juror, may be entered by a jury of five.

APPELLATE SESSION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Unless the law terminating the Appellate Session of the Superior Court as of July 1, 1979 is repealed, the Supreme Court will be inundated with appeals, thus exacerbating an already burdensome caseload.

PRISONER TRANSPORTATION

Prisoner transportation to and from court currently requires participation by municipal and state police departments, county sheriffs and the State Department of Correction. It is a common occurrence in a courthouse serving a geographical area to have many police officers from several municipalities present in court guarding prisoners they have arrested, state police officers in attendance for the same reason, and correction officers also present to guard convicted defendants who have been sentenced to imprisonment on one or more charges but whose presence in court is required so that they may either respond to new charges or testify as a witness in a case involving another person. On most occasions deputy sheriffs are present in such a courthouse. This is incredibly wasteful of the taxpayers' money, totally inefficient, and reduces the capability of local police departments to perform other regular police functions.

For a period of approximately eighteen months during 1974-75, the Department of Correction, supported by a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) grant, conducted a pilot transportation project between the Hartford Correctional Center and certain locations of the former Circuit Court. An evaluation of the project by Dunlap and Associates, Inc. indicated that the transportation of prisoners by the Department of Correction was a success. Municipal police departments are in favor of such a statewide system of prisoner transportation because it means that law enforcement personnel and equipment are more readily available for local duty. Court personnel felt that transportation by the Department of Correction was an improvement, citing the professional conduct of transportation team members and the efficiency of prisoner arrivals for court appearances.

Because the Department of Correction has an internal transportation system operating on a statewide basis which is capable of being expanded, we recommend that legislation be adopted to accomplish the following results:

1. The arresting police department would retain the responsibility of transporting prisoners to court from any local municipal lockup; however, this duty would end when the prisoner is brought to court.

2. The county sheriffs would remain responsible, with the exception noted above, for transporting prisoners to and from courthouses which only serve judicial districts of the Superior Court.

3. The Department of Correction would be responsible for all other prisoner transportation, including transporting prisoners to and from courthouses

serving only a geographical area and courthouses serving a geographical area and a judicial district, such as the courthouse at Danbury.

TAKING BONDS BY POLICE ON WARRANTS OF ARREST

It is suggested that Section 54-2a of the General Statutes be amended so that an arresting police department may take from an accused any bond which may have been fixed by the court when it issued a bench warrant of arrest or of rearrest. If adopted, the local police will no longer be obligated to take an accused, when he is able to post bond, to the clerk's office or a community correction center, the only places under existing law where the bond in such situations may be posted.

COSTS AND FEES IN MOTOR VEHICLE, CRIMINAL, AND INFRACTION MATTERS

To provide monies to compensate innocent victims of crime, Section 15 of P.A. 78-261 imposed a $10 cost to be taxed against any person convicted of crime or four of the more serious motor vehicle violations. Similarly, to provide funding for the municipal police training academy, P.A. 78-321 provides that each person who pays any sum as a fine or forfeiture for certain motor vehicle violations and infractions shall pay an additional fee of ten percent of the amount he is required to pay; however, if payment is made for an infraction, the fee is limited to the first ninety dollars of the fine or forfeiture.

We propose that Section 15 of P.A. 78-261 and P.A. 78-321 be repealed and that funding for these meritorious purposes be achieved in the usual manner by an appropriation from the General Fund. The implementation of this legislation places onerous burdens on clerks' office staff and creates enormously difficult accounting problems. In some instances a convicted defendant must pay not only the $10 cost but the 10% fee as well. Collection of the 10% fee on bond forfeitures is practically impossible and has created accounting problems because in those instances the defendant has absconded.

INFRACTIONS

Section 51-164q of the General Statutes provides that all traffic violations payable by mail before November 1, 1975, shall be considered infractions. In order to avoid confusion, it is recommended that this statute be repealed and that these "traffic violations" be specifically identified as infractions in their respective statutory sections. In addition, there are several other motor vehicle violations which should be changed to infractions so that persons wishing to pay their fines by mail may do so without the inconvenience of appearing in court.

SHERIFFS AT JUVENILE HEARINGS

It would be less expensive in hearings concerning juvenile matters to pay deputy sheriffs a per diem fee for court attendance than to hire several additional court officers. The law proscribing the use of sheriffs from court attendance in hearings regarding juvenile matters should be repealed.

LITIGATION AGAINST JUDGES AND COURT EMPLOYEES

Law suits against judges and employees of the Judicial Department which are based upon the discharge of their duties are filed frequently in both state and federal court. It is recommended that the Attorney General be given specific authority, and concomitant sufficient assistance, to represent such judges and employees and that judges and employees be indemnified for losses that they may suffer as the result of such law suits.

MAXIMUM RENTAL - GEOGRAPHICAL AREA COURTHOUSES

The condition of certain courthouses is highly unsatisfactory, causing discomfort to citizens and employees. This adversely affects the public's perception of the dispensation of justice. To assist in obviating these deficiencies in courthouses serving geographical areas, it is recommended that Section 51-27a of the General Statutes be amended to allow the commissioner of administrative services to "lease new or substantially reconstructed quarters for the Superior Court from a municipality or other person" at a rental not to exceed $7.50 per square foot. This amount is only one dollar higher than the present maximum fixed in April, 1976, which is no longer sufficiently attractive in today's inflationary real estate market.

All court facilities in the Judicial District of Danbury and most court facilities in the Judicial District of Ansonia-Milford serve not only their respective judicial districts but a geographical area as well. It is recommended that existing law be clarified so that the provisions of Section 51-27a are inapplicable to the amount of rent the State may pay for court facilities serving both a judicial district and a geographical area in the Judicial Districts of Danbury and Ansonia-Milford.

NOTARY PUBLIC APPLICATIONS

Remaining as a relic of former county government, the obligation still rests with various clerks of court, acting as "county clerks," to recommend applicants for appointment to the office of notary public, to record their certificates of authority, and to certify on various documents their authority to act as a notary public. This entire non-

judicial process, part of which is already confusingly shared with the town clerks, should be reassigned exclusively to the town clerks and certain fees should be increased so that there is no financial burden cast upon the towns.

UNIFORM RECIPROCAL SUPPORT

The role of state information agent for administrative purposes under the uniform reciprocal support act, presently assigned to the executive secretary of the Judicial Department, should be assigned to the director of the Family Division.

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION

There are several sections of P.A. 78-200 concerning the privacy and security of criminal history record information that have created many problems and should be amended, as well as section 54-90 of the General Statutes concerning the erasure of criminal records.

ELIMINATION OF CONFLICTS BETWEEN STATUTES AND RULES

When the Advisory Council on Court Unification developed proposals for new rules of practice and procedure, it recognized that if those rules were adopted conflicts would exist between the rules and the statutes. Recommendations were made to the General Assembly last year, which cooperated in amending the statutes to avoid conflicts. Other rule revisions will again require a cooperative effort by the General Assembly and the judges of the Superior Court to eliminate conflicts between statutes and rules. For example, the Rules Committee of the Superior Court has drafted rules which would eliminate the need for findings of fact by the court in non-jury cases on appeal, thus streamlining the appellate process.

Also, the Rules Committee has drafted proposed rules which establish a statewide grievance committee to which appeals in certain situations could be taken from the decisions of the judicial district grievance committees. The concept of a statewide grievance committee has been advocated for several years by many individuals and groups, including the American and Connecticut Bar Associations. Some sections of Chapter 876 of the General Statutes, specifying the composition and duties of the eleven judicial district grievance committees, may present an impediment to adoption of these rules. Accordingly, it is recommended that the language of certain sections of chapter 876 be rewritten in more general terms in order to avoid any possible conflict between statutes and rules establishing a statewide grievance committee.

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APPENDIX: CASELOAD STATISTICS

COURT YEARS: 1976-77
1977-78

BIENNIAL STATISTICAL REPORT

SUPREME COURT

July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1978

		Period July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1977				Period July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1978		
		CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL		CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Appeals pending start of period		299	81	380		398	89	487
Appeals added during period		342	67	409		393	81	474
TOTAL CASELOAD FOR PERIOD COVERED	(1)	641	148	789	(1)	791	170	961
Appeals disposed of by opinion		129	47	176		145	41	186
All other dispositions		114	12	126		159	8	167
TOTAL APPEALS DISPOSED OF DURING PERIOD	(2)	243	59	302	(2)	304	49	353
APPEALS PENDING END OF PERIOD Line (1) minus line (2)		398	89	487		487	121	608
PETITIONS FOR CERTIFICATION CONSIDERED				57				65
MOTIONS ARGUED				135				144

A. SUPREME COURT

Court Year	Error	No Error	Reservations	Motions*	Total Decided
1926-27	62	114	16	2	194
1927-28	58	105	12	3	178
1928-29	59	101	13	3	176
1929-30	73	139	17	1	230
1930-31	63	109	20	0	192
1931-32	56	161	16	0	233
1932-33	67	143	16	0	226
1933-34	42	121	13	0	176
1934-35	43	88	6	0	137
1935-36	59	95	7	0	161
1936-37	36	76	7	0	119
1937-38	48	99	5	0	152
1938-39	33	87	7	0	127
1939-40	46	83	5	0	134
1940-41	46	81	9	0	136
1941-42	48	82	10	0	140
1942-43	34	76	6	0	116
1943-44	35	66	9	0	110
1944-45	41	73	6	4	124
1945-46	28	47	7	5	87
1946-47	23	62	5	9	99
1947-48	32	70	4	10	116
1948-49	22	78	7	7	114
1949-50	40	84	6	4	134
1950-51	36	70	8	2	116
1951-52	23	75	4	2	104
1952-53	33	87	10	28	158
1953-54	31	88	12	35	166
1954-55	25	85	10	16	136
1955-56	36	79	6	29	150
1956-57	18	57	9	21	105
1957-58	23	104	5	30	162
1958-59	41	100	4	35	180
1959-60	31	85	7	45	168
1960-61	42	86	4	68	200
1961-62	55	74	4	60	193
1962-63	44	72	5	76	197
1963-64	45	103	1	70	219
1964-65	43	84	5	79	211
1965-66	55	76	3	91	225
1966-67	58	99	1	143	301
1967-68	44	91	7	125	267
1968-69	34	94	5	140	273
1969-70	49	71	3	167	290
1970-71	47	80	4	116	247
1971-72	62	97	7	193	359
1972-73	40	95	2	240	377
1973-74	44	106	5	319	474
1974-75	58	140	5	382	585
1975-76	54	138	3	386	581
1976-77	60	102	1	366	529
1977-78	88	128	8	438	662

Included in the above Motions, the court considered the following Petitions for Certification from the Appellate Division of the Circuit Court and, effective 9/1/71, from the Appellate Division of the Court of Common Pleas (Public Act No.870, Sec. 6, 1971 Session):

1961-62**	13	1969-70	19
1962-63	30	1970-71	14
1963-64	15	1971-72	25
1964-65	10	1972-73	57
1965-66	14	1973-74	54
1966-67	26	1974-75	44
1967-68	15	1975-76	49
1968-69	19	1976-77	57

1977-78 65

* Not including motions without opinions prior to court year 1952-53.
** First petition was filed on August 31, 1961.

SUPREME COURT - DECIDED OCTOBER 1976 - OCTOBER 1977

	Contracts	Equity	Negligence	Other Torts	Appeals From Administrative Agencies	Construction of Wills	Criminal	Motions	Miscellaneous	Totals
No Error	2	9	9	2	15	0	38	0	27	102
Error, No further Proceedings	2	1	0	0	7	0	2	0	8	20
Error, further Proceedings	5	4	8	0	5	0	6	0	12	40
Reservations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Motions with Opinion	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Motions without Opinion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364	0	364
TOTALS	9	14	17	2	27	0	47	364	49	529

SUPREME COURT - DECIDED OCTOBER 1977 - OCTOBER 1978

	Contracts	Equity	Negligence	Other Torts	Appeals From Administrative Agencies	Construction of Wills	Criminal	Motions	Miscellaneous	Totals
No Error	8	10	13	1	27	1	30	0	58	128
Error, No further Proceedings	2	6	0	0	13	0	1	0	10	32
Error, further Proceedings	4	4	8	2	9	0	14	0	15	56
Reservations	0	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	8
Motions with Opinion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Motions without Opinion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	437	0	437
TOTALS	14	22	21	3	52	2	45	438	65	662

B. SUPERIOR COURT

SUPERIOR COURT - CIVIL DOCKET CASES

Court Year	Entered	Tried	Otherwise Disposed of	Undisposed of at End of Year
1926-27	7,848	1,047	6,295	7,263
1927-28	7,822	994	6,903	7,188
1928-29	8,387	1,086	6,940	7,549
1929-30	9,523	1,121	8,014	7,937
1930-31	9,535	1,044	7,876	8,552
1931-32	10,503	1,233	8,621	9,201
1932-33	10,396	1,016	8,406	10,175
1933-34	10,711	1,156	8,267	11,463
1934-35	11,194	1,162	11,223	10,272
1935-36	9,824	933	9,427	9,736
1936-37	9,461	1,058	9,090	9,049
1937-38	8,967	998	7,530	9,488
1938-39	8,158	926	7,506	9,214
1939-40	8,458	952	7,708	9,012
1940-41	8,528	862	7,100	9,578
1941-42	8,284	899	7,932	9,031
1942-43	6,922	726	6,011	9,216
1943-44	7,135	700	6,224	9,427
1944-45	7,442	695	6,242	9,932
1945-46	9,781	734	7,718	11,261
1946-47	9,962	747	7,817	12,659
1947-48	8,835	728	8,071	12,695
1948-49	8,603	774	8,729	11,795
1949-50	8,273	731	6,031	13,306
1950-51	8,703	697	8,538	12,774
1951-52	9,969	914	7,901	13,928
1952-53	10,891	940	7,710	16,169
1953-54	11,214	1,066	10,095	16,222
1954-55	11,717	1,084	8,431	18,424
1955-56	11,545	1,001	8,755	20,213
1956-57	11,571	933	10,338	20,513
1957-58	12,092	978	10,869	20,758
1958-59	13,259	1,118	11,124	21,775
1959-60	13,611	1,007	12,729	21,650
1960-61	13,621	1,141	9,851	24,279
1961-62	13,640	953	10,267	26,699
1962-63	13,764	841	10,759	28,863
1963-64	13,957	1,032	10,659	31,129
1964-65 *	15,438	739	12,654	33,174
1965-66	18,413	1,418	15,513	34,656
1966-67	16,972	1,006	17,566	33,056
1967-68	17,288	1,595	18,950	29,799
1968-69	17,565	1,544	16,171	29,649
1969-70	19,399	1,106	16,670	31,272
1970-71	18,221	1,122	16,777	31,594
1971-72	19,822	1,118	21,777	28,521
1972-73	20,279	1,216	17,570	29,753
1973-74	23,170	1,187	19,396	32,252
1974-75	25,003	1,783	22,333	32,847
1975-76	25,793	1,847	23,148	33,627
1976-77 **	26,750	1,552	23,359	33,990
1977-78	27,926	1,513	22,850	37,708

* Prior to 1965-66, the Court Year covered the period from July 1st through June 30th. During the transitional Court Year of 1965-66, the actual period covered extended from July 1, 1965 through August 31, 1966. For each succeeding year, the period reported coincides with the trial year--September 1st through August 31st.

** For this year and each succeeding year, the Court Year covers the period from July 1st through June 30th.

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1977

LOCATION	Carried Over From Previous Year			Entered During Year			Cases Disposed of During Year					Undisposed of at End of Year		
							By Trial		Other Dispositions					
	Non-Family Docket	Family Docket	Total Docket	Non-Family	Family	Total Entered	Non-Family	Family	Non-Family	Family	Total Dispositions	Non-Family	Family	Total
FAIRFIELD	3818	1544	5362	2063	2158	4221	167	323	1518	1795	3803	4196	1584	5780
HARTFORD	5850	3199	9049	3367	4062	7429	155	5	2697	4161	7018	6365	3095	9460
NEW HAVEN	4336	2186	6522	2325	2734	5059	250	316	1749	2343	4658	4662	2261	6923
LITCHFIELD	603	651	1254	284	659	943	19	4	226	646	895	642	660	1302
MIDDLESEX	669	647	1316	369	776	1145	32	90	312	819	1253	694	514	1208
NEW LONDON	926	1208	2134	525	1431	1956	37	27	370	1301	1735	1044	1311	2355
TOLLAND	384	482	866	345	684	1029	34	4	168	693	899	527	469	996
WINDHAM	230	348	578	180	541	721	4	0	98	470	572	308	419	727
WATERBURY	937	867	1804	583	967	1550	8	0	437	1118	1563	1075	716	1791
STAMFORD	1825	1441	3266	1005	1692	2697	57	20	764	1674	2515	2009	1439	3448
TOTALS	19578	12573	32151	11046	15704	26750	763	789	8339	15020	24911	21522	12468	33990

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1977-June 30, 1978

LOCATION	Carried Over From Previous Year			Entered During Year			Cases Disposed of During Year					Undisposed of at End of Year		
							By Trial		Other Dispositions					
	Non-Family Docket	Family Docket	Total Docket	Non-Family	Family	Total Entered	Non-Family	Family	Non-Family	Family	Total Dispositions	Non-Family	Family	Total
FAIRFIELD	4229	1557	5786	2160	2325	4485	127	282	1613	1820	3842	4649	1780	6429
HARTFORD	6425	3083	9508	3303	4323	7626	143	3	2513	3595	6254	7072	3808	10880
NEW HAVEN	4736	2222	6958	2457	2855	5312	221	411	1919	2311	4862	5053	2355	7408
LITCHFIELD	659	643	1302	306	703	1009	17	3	233	796	1049	715	547	1262
MIDDLESEX	704	578	1282	380	751	1131	23	97	296	516	932	765	716	1481
NEW LONDON	957	1299	2256	589	1471	2060	23	38	435	1383	1879	1088	1349	2437
TOLLAND	476	556	1032	346	718	1064	19	20	247	673	959	556	581	1137
WINDHAM	248	412	660	205	574	779	16	1	168	523	708	269	462	731
WATERBURY	1088	706	1794	575	1133	1708	8	0	494	975	1477	1161	864	2025
STAMFORD	2090	1477	3567	1044	1708	2752	33	28	767	1573	2401	2334	1584	3918
TOTALS	21612	12533	34145	11365	16561	27926	630	883	8685	14165	24363	23662	14046	37708

SUPERIOR COURT

1976-1977

Civil Cases - Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1976	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1977
			By Trial	Otherwise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	1,581	637	74	445	519	1,699
Danbury	101	79	19	70	89	91
Stamford	666	324	35	222	257	733
(Total)	(2,348)	(1,040)	(128)	(737)	(865)	(2,523)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	1,994	868	30	670	700	2,162
New Britain	257	150	10	82	92	315
(Total)	(2,251)	(1,018)	(40)	(752)	(792)	(2,477)
LITCHFIELD	257	82	11	58	69	270
MIDDLESEX	264	132	15	112	127	269
NEW HAVEN	2,119	961	67	670	737	2,343
NEW LONDON	359	204	9	130	139	424
TOLLAND	128	92	12	66	78	142
WINDHAM	41	48	2	36	38	51
WATERBURY	421	225	8	165	173	473
STATE TOTALS	8,188	3,802	292	2,726	3,018	8,972

SUPERIOR COURT

1976-1977

Civil Cases - Non-Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1976	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1977
			By Trial	Other-wise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	515	480	224	215	439	556
Danbury	26	129	62	70	132	23
Stamford	264	506	18	379	397	373
(Total)	(805)	(1,115)	(304)	(664)	(968)	(952)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	777	500	41	329	370	907
New Britain	83	76	7	61	68	91
(Total)	(860)	(576)	(48)	(390)	(438)	(998)
LITCHFIELD	103	78	5	57	62	119
MIDDLESEX	81	101	30	37	67	115
NEW HAVEN	417	575	193	309	502	490
NEW LONDON	86	185	37	126	163	108
TOLLAND	63	60	12	56	68	55
WINDHAM	36	45	1	29	30	51
WATERBURY	106	146	0	129	129	123
STATE TOTALS	2,557	2,881	630	1,797	2,427	3,011

SUPERIOR COURT

1977-1978

Civil Cases - Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1977	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1978
			By Trial	Otherwise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	1,738	600	50	445	495	1,843
Danbury	107	75	13	69	82	100
Stamford	764	277	14	197	211	830
(Total)	(2,609)	(952)	(77)	(711)	(788)	(2,773)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	2,147	896	30	582	612	2,431
New Britain	322	141	6	95	101	362
(Total)	(2,469)	(1,037)	(36)	(677)	(713)	(2,793)
LITCHFIELD	267	83	6	86	92	258
MIDDLESEX	269	96	4	72	76	289
NEW HAVEN	2,314	877	38	711	749	2,442
NEW LONDON	437	191	11	166	177	451
TOLLAND	159	91	2	58	60	190
WINDHAM	53	53	4	63	67	39
WATERBURY	479	219	8	193	201	497
STATE TOTALS	9,056	3,599	186	2,737	2,923	9,732

SUPERIOR COURT

1977-1978

Civil Cases - Non-Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1977	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1978
			By Trial	Otherwise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	511	265	30	175	205	573
Danbury	29	29	3	18	21	37
Stamford	334	169	13	71	84	419
(Total)	(874)	(463)	(46)	(262)	(308)	(1,029)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	923	381	30	262	292	1,012
New Britain	70	34	3	15	18	86
(Total)	(993)	(415)	(33)	(277)	(310)	(1,098)
LITCHFIELD	117	48	4	19	23	142
MIDDLESEX	112	66	11	46	57	121
NEW HAVEN	487	378	134	260	394	471
NEW LONDON	108	87	9	50	59	136
TOLLAND	46	25	4	15	19	52
WINDHAM	35	12	10	19	29	18
WATERBURY	152	56	0	69	69	139
STATE TOTALS	2,924	1,550	251	1,017	1,268	3,206

SUPERIOR COURT - CIVIL CASES - AVERAGE TIME TO DISPOSITION

Comparison - Court Years 1976-77 and 1977-78

	Average Time Between Return Day and Disposition (Months)		Average Time Between Date Claimed for Trial List and Trial (Months)			
	1976-77	1977-78	1976-77		1977-78	
Location	All Cases	All Cases	Jury	Non-Jury	Jury	Non-Jury
FAIRFIELD	18.3	20.1	35.0	11.8	42.7	40.0
HARTFORD	16.2	20.9	37.5	27.3	47.0	42.5
NEW HAVEN	17.9	18.3	38.1	11.7	39.1	14.3
LITCHFIELD	17.5	14.4	46.9	23.0	33.7	*
MIDDLESEX	11.6	19.0	25.4	20.6	45.6	25.5
NEW LONDON	16.3	15.6	36.6	8.0	30.6	27.7
TOLLAND	13.3	14.2	21.8	9.7	38.0	32.8
WINDHAM	15.3	12.4	16.1	20.4	7.0	7.4
WATERBURY	13.8	16.5	32.8	11.4	29.7	24.1
STAMFORD	16.5	19.6	34.2	11.3	47.2	*
STATEWIDE AVERAGE	16.4	18.6	35.7	14.9	40.0	30.3

*Not included because the number of cases involved is too small to provide a valid time factor.

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS

COURT YEAR JULY 1, 1976 thru JUNE 30, 1977

No.	Classification	Fairfield	Hartford	New Haven	Litchfield	Middlesex	New London	Tolland	Windham	Waterbury	Total
1.	Arson; Reckless burning	1	14	3	1	1	3	3	4	2	32
2.	Assault (1st degree)	14	32	18	3	4	7	3	1	9	91
3.	Assault (2nd & 3rd degree); Threatening	39	119	64	10	9	17	7	4	18	287
4.	Assault on peace officer; Interfering	7	33	23	3	1	8	3	3	9	90
5.	Bribery; Perjury; other offenses against administration of justice	1	4	0	0	0	4	2	0	1	12
6.	Burglary (1st & 2nd degree)	49	64	33	0	8	49	14	2	25	244
7.	Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	80	89	83	20	20	59	7	1	24	383
8.	Conspiracy; Attempt	0	10	41	8	0	21	2	0	28	110
9.	Escape; Failure to appear	52	72	26	7	9	44	3	6	4	223
10.	Forgery	1	4	12	1	0	2	1	0	2	23
11.	Kidnapping, related offenses	5	7	10	1	0	12	5	0	3	43
12.	Larceny (1st & 2nd degree)	96	103	27	36	10	28	14	10	20	344
13.	Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	9	21	10	6	3	25	3	2	10	89
14.	Murder; Manslaughter	37	26	22	3	4	5	1	3	9	110
15.	Possession, narcotic drugs	76	121	25	6	5	3	0	5	48	289
16.	Possession, controlled drugs	34	30	26	18	8	51	7	5	19	198
17.	Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	22	29	23	2	2	8	3	3	7	99
18.	Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	27	40	38	11	4	30	12	10	15	187
19.	Robbery	198	247	154	15	18	64	6	16	71	789
20.	Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	55	58	14	3	6	15	3	12	16	182
21.	Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	31	7	18	16	2	30	12	9	14	139
22.	Weapons offenses	3	19	3	0	0	2	0	0	2	29
23.	Youthful offender	15	77	21	5	3	34	1	4	15	175
24.	Other felonies	4	15	0	5	6	10	4	0	13	57
25.	Other misdemeanors	36	107	39	6	5	24	3	7	36	261
26.	TOTALS	892	1,348	733	186	126	555	119	107	420	4,486

SUPERIOR COURT, CRIMINAL CASE STATISTICS, JULY 1, 1976 - JUNE 30, 1977, PART "A"

PROCEDURAL OUTCOME OF ALL DEFENDANTS DISPOSED OF

Offense Classification	Cases Disposed (by "Principal Disposition Charge")	Cases Disposed by Public Defender	Charges Disposed	CASES DISPOSED OF WITHOUT CONVICTION				CASES DISPOSED OF WITH CONVICTION AND SENTENCE			
				Nolled, Withdrawn, Transferred to Court of Common Pleas	Dismissed, Quashed	Acquitted a. Court	Acquitted b. Jury	Guilty, Nolo Pleas: Original Information	Guilty, Nolo Pleas: Substitute Information	Convicted a. Court	Convicted b. Jury
1. Arson; Reckless burning	32	21	44	8	5	2	0	14	2	0	1
2. Assault (1st degree)	91	51	137	23	9	2	1	29	21	0	6
3. Assault (2nd and 3rd degree); Threatening	287	163	359	39	8	2	1	60	174	0	3
4. Assault on peace officer; Interfering	90	41	150	29	1	0	3	38	17	0	2
5. Bribery; Perjury; Other offenses against administration of justice	12	4	22	4	0	2	2	1	2	0	1
6. Burglary (1st and 2nd degree)	244	136	499	46	5	0	2	171	18	1	1
7. Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	383	255	753	79	8	0	1	227	65	0	3
8. Conspiracy; Attempt	110	60	181	30	20	1	0	33	26	0	0
9. Escape, Failure to appear	223	159	259	40	4	0	0	169	8	0	2
10. Forgery	23	8	40	9	0	0	0	9	5	0	0
11. Kidnapping, related offenses	43	15	76	5	0	0	1	20	14	0	3
12. Larceny (1st and 2nd degree)	344	167	756	63	8	0	2	218	48	1	4
13. Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	89	54	341	10	1	0	0	43	35	0	0
14. Murder; Manslaughter	110	52	124	9	2	7	8	31	28	1	24
15. Possession, narcotic drugs	289	166	476	66	14	0	0	176	31	0	2
16. Possession, controlled drugs	198	71	346	20	4	0	0	101	73	0	0
17. Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	99	52	153	26	8	2	4	41	11	1	6
18. Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	187	100	304	30	6	1	0	93	54	0	3
19. Robbery	789	528	913	175	18	2	7	305	265	1	16
20. Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	182	103	381	26	8	0	3	133	11	0	1
21. Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	139	46	236	24	8	0	0	78	28	0	1
22. Weapons offenses	29	17	69	1	0	0	0	19	8	0	1
23. Youthful offender	175	99	242	4	1	3	0	30	134	3	0
24. Other felonies	57	22	94	16	2	0	1	30	6	0	2
25. Other misdemeanors	261	105	368	30	2	0	0	60	167	1	1
26. Totals	4,486	2,495	7,323	812	142	24	36	2,129	1,251	9	85

SUPERIOR COURT, CRIMINAL CASE STATISTICS, JULY 1, 1976 - JUNE 30, 1977, PART "B"

SENTENCING OR TREATMENT OF ALL CONVICTED DEFENDANTS SENTENCED

Offense Classification	Defendants Sentenced	CONFINED					NOT CONFINED				
		CCI, Somers, Enfield, Niantic maximum security division	CCI, CHESHIRE		CCC; CCI, NIANTIC		Suspended Sentence		Fines Only	Other Sentence	Committed for Mental Health Treatment
			Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge	Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge	Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge			
1. Arson; Reckless burning	17	4	2	3	2	0	5	0	1	0	0
2. Assault (1st degree)	54	43	1	3	1	3	3	0	0	0	0
3. Assault (2nd and 3rd degree); Threatening	243	39	3	6	34	28	105	21	2	5	0
4. Assault on peace officer; Interfering	55	12	2	7	8	3	14	3	3	3	0
5. Bribery; Perjury; Other offenses against administration of justice	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
6. Burglary (1st and 2nd degree)	182	99	4	28	4	7	40	0	0	0	0
7. Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	288	121	3	41	15	36	59	6	2	2	3
8. Conspiracy; Attempt	50	19	1	3	2	7	16	2	0	0	0
9. Escape, Failure to appear	177	86	4	10	9	39	16	12	0	1	0
10. Forgery	15	1	0	0	2	3	9	0	0	0	0
11. Kidnapping, related offenses	37	19	0	0	5	3	9	0	0	1	0
12. Larceny (1st and 2nd degree)	281	121	0	20	34	22	63	11	0	8	2
13. Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	92	2	0	3	23	16	39	5	3	1	0
14. Murder; Manslaughter	84	76	0	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	0
15. Possession, narcotic drugs	211	67	1	5	11	15	104	5	2	0	1
16. Possession, controlled drugs	186	8	1	0	32	15	100	12	12	6	0
17. Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	56	39	2	2	1	2	10	0	0	0	0
18. Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	149	48	2	8	10	20	53	6	0	2	0
19. Robbery	582	373	10	93	18	18	59	9	0	2	0
20. Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	146	82	3	4	3	3	42	4	0	0	5
21. Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	97	14	0	4	14	9	54	1	0	1	0
22. Weapons offenses	29	7	0	0	6	3	10	2	0	1	0
23. Youthful offender	166	3	6	14	8	6	107	18	4	0	0
24. Other felonies	39	10	2	2	6	3	11	2	2	1	0
25. Other misdemeanors	232	0	1	3	16	22	118	39	26	7	0
26. Totals	3,472	1,293	48	260	265	286	1,053	158	57	41	11

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL CASES - COURT YEAR JULY 1, 1976 thru JUNE 30, 1977

Dispositions - Represented by Public Defender

No.	Classification	Fairfield	Hartford	New Haven	Litchfield	Middlesex	New London	Tolland	Windham	Waterbury	Total
1.	Arson; Reckless burning	0	7	3	1	1	3	2	3	1	21
2.	Assault (1st degree)	7	19	9	2	0	5	2	1	6	51
3.	Assault (2nd & 3rd degree); Threatening	20	76	28	7	4	12	4	3	9	163
4.	Assault on peace officer; Interfering	5	19	6	0	1	3	2	3	2	41
5.	Bribery; Perjury; other offenses against administration of justice	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
6.	Burglary (1st & 2nd degree)	24	44	17	0	1	31	7	2	10	136
7.	Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	48	64	49	15	14	43	5	1	16	255
8.	Conspiracy; Attempt	0	4	34	3	0	9	1	0	9	60
9.	Escape; Failure to appear	37	54	22	2	8	28	1	5	2	159
10.	Forgery	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
11.	Kidnapping, related offenses	0	2	5	1	0	2	3	0	2	15
12.	Larceny (1st & 2nd degree)	45	50	10	19	2	14	7	6	14	167
13.	Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	4	17	6	3	0	12	3	1	8	54
14.	Murder; Manslaughter	11	12	12	2	4	4	0	3	4	52
15.	Possession, narcotic drugs	45	72	11	3	1	2	0	2	30	166
16.	Possession, controlled drugs	9	13	8	6	1	17	3	1	13	71
17.	Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	12	13	15	1	0	6	0	0	5	52
18.	Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	12	24	18	5	0	18	5	9	9	100
19.	Robbery	123	176	100	4	10	48	6	15	46	528
20.	Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	37	32	6	0	1	6	3	7	11	103
21.	Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	6	3	8	3	0	7	7	7	5	46
22.	Weapons offenses	0	14	0	[illegible]	0	2	0	0	1	17
23.	Youthful offender	11	44	12	1	1	21	0	2	7	99
24.	Other felonies	1	5	0	0	4	7	2	0	3	22
25.	Other misdemeanors	14	55	9	3	1	8	0	3	12	105
26.	TOTALS	472	824	392	82	54	308	63	74	226	2,495
	(Percent of Total Dispositions)	(53%)	(61%)	(53%)	(44%)	(43%)	(55%)	(53%)	(69%)	(54%)	(56%)

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS

Court Year July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1978

No.	Classification	Fairfield	Hartford	New Haven	Litchfield	Middlesex	New London	Tolland	Windham	Waterbury	Total
1.	Arson; Reckless burning	11	5	11	5	1	3	1	2	5	44
2.	Assault (1st degree)	3	24	11	1	3	12	5	0	7	66
3.	Assault (2nd & 3rd degree); Threatening	47	110	45	7	3	19	12	4	6	253
4.	Assault on peace officer; Interfering	19	39	10	7	1	1	0	1	2	80
5.	Bribery; Perjury; other offenses against administration of justice	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
6.	Burglary (1st & 3nd degree)	33	69	35	3	5	24	13	2	6	190
7.	Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	24	81	56	12	19	33	21	7	12	265
8.	Conspiracy; Attempt	0	4	39	12	4	3	5	0	19	86
9.	Escape; Failure to appear	29	66	25	3	2	20	2	5	12	164
10.	Forgery	2	4	10	3	0	5	0	0	0	24
11.	Kidnapping, related offenses	2	7	6	0	0	3	3	2	0	23
12.	Larceny (1st & 2nd degree)	116	104	24	15	12	36	18	4	29	358
13.	Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	14	27	9	0	3	7	2	0	9	71
14.	Murder; Manslaughter	35	38	22	3	5	2	0	3	8	116
15.	Possession, narcotic drugs	81	63	47	1	2	7	0	1	19	221
16.	Possession, controlled drugs	22	33	34	3	11	16	12	13	21	165
17.	Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	28	26	21	1	0	1	0	3	1	81
18.	Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	27	59	33	12	4	45	8	3	17	208
19.	Robbery	112	240	118	10	33	28	14	3	49	607
20.	Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	57	34	31	4	0	16	5	10	7	164
21.	Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	35	10	8	13	0	13	2	6	13	100
22.	Weapons offenses	2	24	8	0	0	6	3	0	0	43
23.	Youthful offender	14	33	16	2	1	16	4	4	4	94
24.	Other felonies	9	10	3	3	11	9	4	5	24	78
25.	Other misdemeanors	37	105	34	9	3	29	1	7	12	237
26.	TOTALS	760	1,226	656	129	123	354	135	85	282	3,750

SUPERIOR COURT, CRIMINAL CASE STATISTICS, JULY 1, 1977 - JUNE 30, 1978, PART "A"

PROCEDURAL OUTCOME OF ALL DEFENDANTS DISPOSED OF

Offense Classification	Cases Disposed (by "Principal Disposition Charge")	Cases Disposed by Public Defender	Charges Disposed	CASES DISPOSED OF WITHOUT CONVICTION				CASES DISPOSED OF WITH CONVICTION AND SENTENCE			
				Nolled, Withdrawn, Transferred to Court of Common Pleas	Dismissed, Quashed	Acquitted a. Court	b. Jury	Guilty, Nolo Plea: Original Information	Guilty, Nolo Plea: Substitute Information	Convicted a. Court	b. Jury
1. Arson; Reckless burning	44	30	81	3	3	4	1	21	12	0	0
2. Assault (1st degree)	66	36	101	15	4	4	3	24	11	2	3
3. Assault (2nd and 3rd degree); Threatening	253	151	352	24	7	1	0	54	163	0	4
4. Assault on peace officer; Interfering	80	41	147	11	3	1	0	41	21	1	2
5. Bribery; Perjury; Other offenses against administration of justice	12	1	16	0	0	0	2	2	8	0	0
6. Burglary (1st and 2nd degree)	190	129	340	48	6	0	1	110	22	0	3
7. Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	265	167	596	45	1	0	0	163	54	0	2
8. Conspiracy; Attempt	86	49	125	26	4	0	2	29	24	0	1
9. Escape, Failure to appear	164	122	168	43	7	0	0	109	3	0	2
10. Forgery	24	18	49	14	4	0	0	5	1	0	0
11. Kidnapping, related offenses	23	14	62	8	0	0	0	8	5	0	2
12. Larceny (1st and 2nd degree)	358	183	701	49	18	1	5	223	52	0	10
13. Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	71	35	221	12	2	0	0	26	30	0	1
14. Murder; Manslaughter	116	53	134	12	7	12	9	42	24	2	8
15. Possession, narcotic drugs	221	112	367	47	9	0	1	138	25	0	1
16. Possession, controlled drugs	165	54	301	27	1	0	0	83	54	0	0
17. Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	81	47	130	18	7	4	8	34	4	1	5
18. Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	208	103	357	35	16	2	1	103	48	0	3
19. Robbery	607	392	755	121	29	6	7	242	190	1	11
20. Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	164	82	301	34	5	0	0	106	13	2	4
21. Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	100	33	212	18	14	0	0	58	10	0	0
22. Weapons offenses	43	28	89	5	1	0	0	31	5	1	0
23. Youthful offender	94	39	101	0	0	0	0	13	81	0	0
24. Other felonies	78	29	137	15	8	1	0	36	17	0	1
25. Other misdemeanors	237	88	365	31	3	0	0	42	161	0	0
26. Total:	3,750	2,036	6,208	661	159	36	40	1,743	1,038	10	63

SUPERIOR COURT, CRIMINAL CASE STATISTICS, JULY 1, 1977 - JUNE 30, 1978, PART "B"

SENTENCING OR TREATMENT OF ALL CONVICTED DEFENDANTS SENTENCED

Offense Classification	Defendants Sentenced	CONFINED					NOT CONFINED				
		CCI, Somers, Enfield, Niantic maximum security division	CCI, CHESHIRE		CCC; CCI, NIANTIC		Suspended Sentence		Fines Only	Other Sentence	Committed for Mental Health Treatment
			Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge	Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge	Probation; conditional discharge	No Probation; conditional discharge			
1. Arson; Reckless burning	33	7	0	8	2	6	9	1	0	0	0
2. Assault (1st degree)	37	26	0	5	1	1	2	0	0	2	0
3. Assault (2nd and 3rd degree); Threatining	225	34	1	8	18	53	79	27	4	1	0
4. Assault on peace officer; Interfering	64	6	2	5	9	11	26	2	2	1	0
5. Bribery; Perjury; Other offenses against administration of justice	11	1	0	0	2	1	6	0	1	0	0
6. Burglary (1st and 2nd degree)	128	66	6	24	5	10	17	0	0	0	0
7. Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	217	61	13	30	18	27	61	4	1	2	0
8. Conspiracy; Attempt	53	11	2	4	2	8	23	3	0	0	0
9. Escape, Failure to appear	115	50	1	6	5	41	11	1	0	0	0
10. Forgery	6	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
11. Kidnapping, related offenses	19	11	0	0	4	1	3	0	0	0	0
12. Larceny (1st and 2nd degree)	290	92	9	27	33	28	94	5	0	1	1
13. Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	64	2	2	2	16	15	18	7	2	0	0
14. Murder; Manslaughter	76	63	1	3	1	5	2	0	0	0	1
15. Possession, narcotic drugs	175	34	2	0	13	44	73	4	1	2	2
16. Possession, controlled drugs	141	8	0	1	28	12	70	12	4	4	2
17. Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	41	31	0	4	0	2	4	0	0	0	0
18. Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	154	45	2	4	14	15	64	7	0	2	1
19. Robbery	436	210	16	92	9	39	59	7	1	2	1
20. Sale, manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	114	53	0	7	6	9	36	3	0	0	0
21. Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	66	9	0	0	10	15	27	1	1	2	1
22. Weapons offenses	35	9	0	3	4	4	14	1	0	0	0
23. Youthful offender	94	0	3	4	9	1	76	1	0	0	0
24. Other felonies	53	8	6	1	9	9	14	3	1	2	0
25. Other misdemeanors	207	0	0	0	16	31	108	22	28	2	0
26. Totals	2,854	838	66	238	235	390	898	111	46	23	9

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL CASES - COURT YEAR JULY 1, 1977 through JUNE 30, 1978

Dispositions - Represented by Public Defender

No.	Classification	Fairfield	Hartford	New Haven	Litchfield	Middlesex	New London	Tolland	Windham	Waterbury	Total
1.	Arson; Reckless burning	8	4	6	3	0	2	0	2	5	30
2.	Assault (1st degree)	2	15	7	0	2	6	2	0	2	36
3.	Assault (2nd & 3rd degree); Threatening	30	59	35	1	1	11	8	1	5	151
4.	Assault on peace officer; Interfering	14	17	6	2	0	1	0	0	1	41
5.	Bribery; Perjury; other offenses against administration of justice	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
6.	Burglary (1st & 2nd degree)	19	43	27	1	2	21	10	2	4	129
7.	Burglary (3rd degree); Criminal trespass (1st degree)	12	48	39	7	10	30	14	2	5	167
8.	Conspiracy; Attempt	0	2	21	6	3	0	4	0	13	49
9.	Escape; Failure to appear	23	51	15	0	1	17	2	5	8	122
10.	Forgery	2	4	6	3	0	3	0	0	0	18
11.	Kidnapping, related offenses	2	4	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	14
12.	Larceny (1st & 2nd degree)	59	51	13	2	3	26	14	3	12	183
13.	Larceny (3rd & 4th degree)	7	11	7	0	0	6	2	0	2	35
14.	Murder; Manslaughter	12	22	12	1	3	2	0	0	1	53
15.	Possession, narcotic drugs	41	30	31	0	0	4	0	0	6	112
16.	Possession, controlled drugs	2	10	14	1	7	8	3	4	5	54
17.	Rape and Deviate sexual intercourse (1st & 2nd degree)	15	14	15	0	0	0	0	3	0	47
18.	Sexual misconduct; Sexual contact; Risk of injury	11	28	16	7	1	23	4	2	11	103
19.	Robbery	62	156	89	6	15	18	11	3	32	392
20.	Sale, Manufacture, etc., narcotic drugs	26	15	17	2	0	9	4	5	4	82
21.	Sale, manufacture, etc., controlled drugs	7	3	7	6	0	3	0	2	5	33
22.	Weapons offenses	0	14	7	0	0	6	1	0	0	28
23.	Youthful offender	5	17	7	1	0	3	2	2	2	39
24.	Other felonies	2	2	0	2	5	7	4	3	4	29
25.	Other misdemeanors	18	34	12	2	1	12	0	2	7	88
26.	TOTALS	379	655	411	53	54	220	87	43	134	2,036
	(Percent of Total Dispositions)	50%	53%	63%	41%	44%	62%	64%	51%	48%	54%

C. COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS--CIVIL DOCKET CASES

Court Year	Entered	Tried	Otherwise Disposed of	Undisposed of at End of Year
1926-27	5,629	611	4,585	6,698
1927-28	5,854	794	5,022	6,736
1928-29	6,326	793	5,348	6,921
1929-30	6,175	802	5,203	7,091
1930-31	7,142	760	5,474	7,999
1931-32	7,301	893	5,588	8,819
1932-33	6,192	913	5,412	8,686
1933-34	4,464	785	4,235	8,130
1934-35	4,160	699	4,394	7,197
1935-36	3,632	649	4,051	6,129
1936-37	3,626	574	3,143	6,038
1937-38	4,190	560	3,269	6,399
1938-39	4,224	595	3,192	6,836
1939-40	3,862	560	3,524	6,614
1940-41	4,016	495	3,470	6,665
1941-42	5,072	672	3,627	7,438
1942-43	3,922	518	3,236	7,606
1943-44	3,137	452	3,169	7,123
1944-45	2,880	447	2,677	6,879
1945-46	3,239	479	2,790	6,849
1946-47	4,183	634	3,050	7,348
1947-48	6,163	745	3,620	9,146
1948-49	8,037	694	4,604	11,885
1949-50	7,656	758	6,462	12,321
1950-51	7,184	613	5,961	12,931
1951-52	7,803	716	6,235	13,783
1952-53	7,744	744	5,858	14,925
1953-54	7,969	851	6,508	15,435
1954-55	8,611	790	7,094	16,162
1955-56	7,755	733	5,093	18,091
1956-57	9,370	748	6,586	20,127
1957-58	10,385	748	9,258	20,504
1958-59	11,511	740	10,348	20,927
1959-60	11,553	755	12,849	18,876
1960-61	10,776	850	8,515	20,287
1961-62	9,092	834	7,649	20,896
1962-63	8,703	841	7,023	21,735
1963-64	8,626	684	8,202	21,475
1964-65	9,296	686	8,717	21,368
1965-66	9,692	1,028	9,226	20,806
1966-67	8,226	993	8,417	19,622
1967-68	7,460	750	9,771	16,561
1968-69	8,190	992	9,583	14,176
1969-70	9,618	995	7,577	15,222
1970-71	8,356	1,155	7,656	14,767
1971-72	8,049	1,107	7,555	14,154
1972-73	7,828	1,039	7,780	13,351
1973-74	7,609	963	6,967	13,119
1974-75 *	23,901	932	10,432	26,536
1975-76	30,798	1,431	25,269	32,190
1976-77 **	30,482	2,021	27,841	31,446
1977-78	30,148	2,100	26,795	32,786

* Effective 12/31/74, the 1974 Court Reorganization Act (P.A.74-183) abolished the Circuit Court and merged its jurisdiction into that of the Court of Common Pleas. These figures reflect the impact of the transfer of all former Circuit Court civil business to county locations except Paternity, Summary Process, Support, and Small Claims actions which are returnable to the G.A. locations.

** Prior to 1976-77, the Court Year covered the period from September 1st through August 31st. For this year and each succeeding year, the court year covers the period from July 1st through June 30th.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

CIVIL CASES - ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1977

LOCATION	Carried Over From Previous Year			Entered During Year			Cases Disposed of During Year					Undisposed of at End of Year		
							By Trial		Other Dispositions					
	Non-Family Docket	Family Docket	Total Docket	Non-Family	Family	Total Entered	Non-Family	Family	Non-Family	Family	Total Dispositions	Non-Family	Family	Total
FAIRFIELD	5486	12	5498	5441	4	5445	417	10	5135	2	5564	5375	4	5379
HARTFORD	9167	63	9230	9920	6	9926	594	8	9293	34	9929	9200	27	9227
NEW HAVEN	7179	33	7212	6642	3	6645	491	7	5611	9	6118	7719	20	7739
LITCHFIELD	722	7	729	811	3	814	45	2	710	1	758	778	7	785
MIDDLESEX	844	4	848	835	1	836	42	0	774	2	818	863	3	866
NEW LONDON	2012	21	2033	1646	3	1649	79	1	1524	7	1611	2055	16	2071
TOLLAND	557	4	561	750	1	751	41	0	582	3	626	684	2	686
WINDHAM	432	1	433	423	0	423	21	1	458	0	480	376	0	376
WATERBURY	1732	8	1740	1708	0	1708	103	0	1454	2	1559	1883	6	1889
STAMFORD	2581	11	2592	2285	0	2285	158	1	2230	10	2399	2478	0	2478
TOTALS	30712	164	30876	30461	21	30482	1991	30	27771	70	29862	31411	85	31496

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

CIVIL CASES - ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1978

LOCATION	Carried Over From Previous Year			Entered During Year			Cases Disposed of During Year					Undisposed of at End of Year		
							By Trial		Other Dispositions					
	Non-Family Docket	Family Docket	Total Docket	Non-Family	Family	Total Entered	Non-Family	Family	Non-Family	Family	Total Dispositions	Non-Family	Family	Total
FAIRFIELD	5240	8	5248	5058	0	5058	474	-	4338	-	4812	5486	8	5494
HARTFORD	9737	27	9764	9267	2	9269	740	-	8776	10	9526	9488	19	9507
NEW HAVEN	7809	21	7830	6458	3	6461	486	-	5649	1	6136	8132	23	8155
LITCHFIELD	780	7	787	791	2	793	32	-	691	1	724	848	8	856
MIDDLESEX	857	3	860	860	5	865	18	-	793	2	813	906	6	912
NEW LONDON	2150	17	2167	1790	0	1790	58	-	1707	1	1766	2175	16	2191
TOLLAND	673	2	675	681	2	683	44	-	649	-	693	661	4	665
WINDHAM	382	1	383	420	0	420	33	-	392	-	425	377	1	378
WATERBURY	1862	6	1868	1702	4	1706	131	1	1718	3	1853	1715	6	1721
STAMFORD	1951	0	1951	3102	1	3103	83	-	2064	-	2147	2906	1	2907
TOTALS	31441	92	31533	30129	19	30148	2099	1	26777	18	28895	32694	92	32786

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

1976-1977

Civil Cases - Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1976	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1977
			By Trial	Other-wise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	658	361	44	391	435	584
Danbury	12	16	1	14	15	13
Stamford	207	125	11	138	149	183
(Total)	(877)	(502)	(56)	(543)	(599)	(780)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	815	419	44	457	501	733
New Britain	157	96	15	128	143	110
(Total)	(972)	(515)	(59)	(585)	(644)	(843)
LITCHFIELD	38	27	4	20	24	41
MIDDLESEX	39	51	4	41	45	45
NEW HAVEN	1,131	631	69	543	612	1,150
NEW LONDON	199	92	19	109	128	163
TOLLAND	35	27	2	24	26	36
WINDHAM	41	16	5	25	30	27
WATERBURY	379	142	17	145	162	359
STATE TOTALS	3,711	2,003	235	2,035	2,270	3,444

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

1976-1977

Civil Cases - Non-Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1976	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1977
			By Trial	Other-wise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	1,149	885	310	577	887	1,147
Danbury	57	149	43	89	132	74
Stamford	823	497	137	379	516	804
(Total)	(2,029)	(1,531)	(490)	(1,045)	(1,535)	(2,025)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	1,424	1,546	334	726	1,060	1,910
New Britain	217	417	190	162	352	282
(Total)	(1,641)	(1,963)	(524)	(888)	(1,412)	(2,192)
LITCHFIELD	173	159	37	113	150	182
MIDDLESEX	172	198	19	147	166	204
NEW HAVEN	1,204	1,468	407	619	1,026	1,646
NEW LONDON	567	424	54	200	254	737
TOLLAND	59	164	35	58	93	130
WINDHAM	51	68	17	46	63	56
WATERBURY	306	391	80	141	221	476
STATE TOTALS	6,202	6,366	1,663	3,257	4,920	7,648

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

1977-1978

Civil Cases - Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1977	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1978
			By Trial	Other-wise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	595	306	27	315	342	559
Danbury	16	21	1	16	17	20
Stamford	203	125	3	59	62	266
(Total)	(814)	(452)	(31)	(390)	(421)	(845)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	771	336	66	293	359	748
New Britain	104	51	2	68	70	85
(Total)	(875)	(387)	(68)	(361)	(429)	(833)
LITCHFIELD	42	24	3	15	18	48
MIDDLESEX	48	43	-	38	38	53
NEW HAVEN	1,189	599	48	440	488	1,300
NEW LONDON	188	70	1	99	100	158
TOLLAND	38	42	3	26	29	51
WINDHAM	22	13	4	12	16	19
WATERBURY	358	112	15	218	233	237
STATE TOTALS	3,574	1,742	173	1,599	1,772	3,544

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

1977-1978

Civil Cases - Non-Jury Trial List

Location	On List July 1 1977	Added During Year	Removed During Year			On List July 1 1978
			By Trial	Other-wise	Total	
FAIRFIELD						
Bridgeport	1,149	973	369	462	831	1,291
Danbury	74	128	29	63	92	110
Stamford	784	475	77	308	385	874
(Total)	(2,007)	(1,576)	(475)	(833)	(1,308)	(2,275)
HARTFORD						
Hartford	2,161	1,790	516	1,049	1,565	2,386
New Britain	296	209	115	192	307	198
(Total)	(2,457)	(1,999)	(631)	(1,241)	(1,872)	(2,584)
LITCHFIELD	173	145	27	84	111	207
MIDDLESEX	183	206	18	140	158	231
NEW HAVEN	1,720	1,426	408	485	893	2,253
NEW LONDON	725	392	53	290	343	774
TOLLAND	130	127	32	103	135	122
WINDHAM	63	65	25	57	82	46
WATERBURY	405	462	102	348	450	417
STATE TOTALS	7,863	6,398	1,771	3,581	5,352	8,909

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - COUNTY LOCATIONS

CIVIL CASES - AVERAGE TIME TO DISPOSITION

Comparison - Court Years 1976-77 and 1977-78

Location	Average Time Between Return Day and Disposition (Months)		Average Time Between Date Claimed for Trial List and Trial (Months)			
	1976-77	1977-78	1976-77		1977-78	
	All Cases	All Cases	Jury	Non-Jury	Jury	Non-Jury
FAIRFIELD	11.6	13.7	15.6	15.8	24.1	20.8
HARTFORD	11.2	12.0	15.7	18.6	23.3	16.6
NEW HAVEN	15.2	15.9	22.5	19.3	31.9	30.2
LITCHFIELD	12.4	14.2	20.5	14.6	36.0	22.4
MIDDLESEX	12.7	13.5	12.0	14.7	16.7	17.5
NEW LONDON	15.4	14.9	15.3	34.8	19.0	27.1
TOLLAND	13.2	11.5	16.6	16.8	21.1	10.8
WINDHAM	9.4	10.7	10.8	10.7	14.3	6.7
WATERBURY	14.2	11.2	26.6	25.8	12.2	11.1
STAMFORD	12.4	16.2	14.7	18.7	51.4	27.2
STATEWIDE AVERAGE	12.6	13.6	18.2	18.7	24.0	20.0

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

CIVIL CASES ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1976 thru June 30, 1977

G.A. No.	LOCATION	Cases Pending 7/1/76	Added During Year	Dispositions During Year	Cases Pending 6/30/77
1	STAMFORD	273	1,373	1,078	568
2	BRIDGEPORT	435	2,006	2,013	428
3	DANBURY	82	249	250	81
4	WATERBURY	86	544	420	210
5	ANSONIA	175	373	418	130
6	NEW HAVEN	341	1,678	1,532	487
7	MERIDEN	433	434	571	296
8	WEST HAVEN	472	541	821	192
9	MIDDLETOWN	98	361	405	54
10	NEW LONDON	197	937	764	370
11	DANIELSON	93	330	319	104
12	MANCHESTER	147	548	491	204
13	WINDSOR	37	220	200	57
14	HARTFORD	1,013	3,590	4,196	407
15	NEW BRITAIN	121	634	585	170
16	WEST HARTFORD	246	205	247	204
17	BRISTOL	102	277	280	99
18	WINSTED	41	205	190	56
19	ROCKVILLE	67	225	232	60
	TOTALS	4,459	14,730	15,012	4,177

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

CIVIL CASES ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1977 thru June 30, 1978

G.A. No.	LOCATION	Cases Pending 7/1/77	Added During Year	Dispositions During Year	Cases Pending 6/30/78
1	STAMFORD	568	1,448	1,423	593
2	BRIDGEPORT	428	2,429	2,217	640
3	DANBURY	81	316	343	54
4	WATERBURY	210	732	724	218
5	ANSONIA	130	428	430	128
6	NEW HAVEN	581	1,893	2,145	329
7	MERIDEN	296	564	641	219
8	WEST HAVEN	192	604	650	146
9	MIDDLETOWN	54	383	373	64
10	NEW LONDON	314	1,244	1,203	355
11	DANIELSON	104	389	404	89
12	MANCHESTER	204	601	650	155
13	WINDSOR	57	275	278	54
14	HARTFORD	407	3,363	2,959	811
15	NEW BRITAIN	170	711	770	111
16	WEST HARTFORD	234	181	214	201
17	BRISTOL	99	395	402	92
18	WINSTED	56	236	238	54
19	ROCKVILLE	60	311	317	54
	TOTALS	4,245	16,503	16,381	4,367

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

Criminal Cases on Dockets - July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1977

	G.A. Location	Type of Case	Defendants Pending 7/1/76	Defendants Added	Total Dispositions	Defendants Pending 6/30/77
1	STAMFORD	CR	2,722	7,734	8,015	2,441
		MV	2,687	26,030	26,888	1,829
2	BRIDGEPORT	CR	2,478	8,352	9,461	1,369
		MV	2,393	23,770	25,343	820
3	DANBURY	CR	409	2,214	2,095	528
		MV	666	10,649	11,077	238
4	WATERBURY	CR	1,101	4,930	4,849	1,182
		MV	275	12,481	11,073	1,683
5	ANSONIA	CR	899	4,133	4,311	721
		MV	2,039	16,501	17,303	1,237
6	NEW HAVEN	CR	1,622	8,597	9,391	828
		MV	826	11,076	11,294	608
7	MERIDEN	CR	1,034	4,194	4,500	728
		MV	1,439	21,730	21,932	1,237
8	WEST HAVEN	CR	605	3,390	3,538	457
		MV	904	8,613	8,651	866
9	MIDDLETOWN	CR	477	3,440	3,398	519
		MV	652	13,391	13,286	757
10	NEW LONDON	CR	629	7,816	7,740	705
		MV	2,340	36,473	36,288	2,525
11	DANIELSON	CR	535	2,386	2,706	215
		MV	456	6,709	6,887	278
12	EAST HARTFORD	CR	507	3,582	3,320	769
		MV	716	12,957	12,890	783
13	WINDSOR	CR	722	2,868	2,939	651
		MV	542	8,673	8,650	565
14	HARTFORD	CR	3,764	9,826	10,575	3,015
		MV	769	5,922	5,997	694
15	NEW BRITAIN	CR	761	3,961	4,192	530
		MV	480	10,760	10,732	508
16	WEST HARTFORD	CR	1,258	2,697	3,436	519
		MV	314	10,003	9,767	550
17	BRISTOL	CR	753	2,266	2,456	563
		MV	621	6,645	7,130	136
18	WINSTED	CR	337	2,292	2,256	373
		MV	284	8,089	8,009	364
19	ROCKVILLE	CR	351	2,200	1,866	685
		MV	602	12,400	12,129	873
	STATEWIDE	CR	20,964	86,878	91,044	16,798
		MV	19,005	262,872	265,326	16,551
	TOTAL CASES		39,969	349,750	356,370	33,349

CR = Criminal
MV = Motor Vehicle

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

CRIMINAL CASES ON DOCKETS - July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1978

G.A. LOCATION	Type of Case	Defendants Pending 7/1/77	Defendants Added	Total Dispositions	Defendants Pending 6/30/78
1. STAMFORD	Criminal	2,441	7,468	7,117	2,792
	Motor Vehicle	1,829	36,223	35,191	2,861
2. BRIDGEPORT	Criminal	1,369	8,723	8,002	2,090
	Motor Vehicle	820	27,178	26,088	1,910
3. DANBURY	Criminal	307	2,483	2,340	450
	Motor Vehicle	628	13,762	13,312	1,078
4. WATERBURY	Criminal	1,182	5,167	4,726	1,623
	Motor Vehicle	1,683	17,574	15,966	3,291
5. ANSONIA	Criminal	323	4,040	3,123	1,240
	Motor Vehicle	988	17,634	17,602	1,020
6. NEW HAVEN	Criminal	828	8,929	8,674	1,083
	Motor Vehicle	608	11,793	11,810	591
7. MERIDEN	Criminal	728	4,615	4,195	1,148
	Motor Vehicle	1,237	19,340	19,192	1,385
8. WEST HAVEN	Criminal	457	3,581	3,664	374
	Motor Vehicle	866	11,009	11,146	729
9. MIDDLETOWN	Criminal	451	3,333	2,968	816
	Motor Vehicle	831	17,236	16,747	1,320
10. NEW LONDON	Criminal	743	8,028	7,552	1,219
	Motor Vehicle	4,395	46,232	48,775	1,852
11. DANIELSON	Criminal	215	2,151	2,075	291
	Motor Vehicle	278	8,616	8,492	402
12. MANCHESTER	Criminal	769	4,048	3,839	978
	Motor Vehicle	783	13,796	13,750	829
13. WINDSOR	Criminal	651	2,732	2,685	698
	Motor Vehicle	565	10,682	10,548	699
14. HARTFORD	Criminal	3,015	8,940	10,472	1,483
	Motor Vehicle	694	6,015	5,832	877
15. NEW BRITAIN	Criminal	479	3,535	3,443	571
	Motor Vehicle	323	11,183	10,461	1,045
16. WEST HARTFORD	Criminal	1,060	2,658	3,353	365
	Motor Vehicle	550	13,706	13,473	783
17. BRISTOL	Criminal	534	2,259	2,284	509
	Motor Vehicle	347	7,864	7,844	367
18. WINSTED	Criminal	373	2,386	2,309	450
	Motor Vehicle	364	9,674	9,833	205
19. ROCKVILLE	Criminal	685	2,235	2,517	403
	Motor Vehicle	648	23,231	22,190	1,689
STATEWIDE	Criminal	16,610	87,311	85,338	18,583
	Motor Vehicle	18,437	322,748	318,252	22,933
TOTAL CASES		35,047	410,059	403,590	41,516

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS*

SMALL CLAIMS FILINGS

G.A. NO.	LOCATION	197[illegible] 72**	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
1	Stamford & Norwalk	5,467	5,780	6,100	7,424	7,408	6,901	7,193
2	Bridgeport	7,351	7,565	7,682	10,378	10,699	9,890	9,014
3	Danbury	1,870	1,907	2,022	2,299	2,402	2,487	2,506
4	Waterbury	6,470	6,200	5,886	6,335	6,292	6,088	4,953
5	Ansonia	2,042	2,251	2,547	2,599	3,344	3,764	3,273
6	New Haven	4,646	5,299	4,813	6,386	6,426	6,974	6,544
7	Meriden	3,646	4,269	4,458	5,116	5,[illegible]94	5,843	5,539
8	West Haven	1,247	1,614	2,134	3,586	2,[illegible]7	2,828	2,434
9	Middletown	2,347	2,052	2,162	2,261	2,[illegible]	2,380	2,234
10	New London	3,845	4,208	5,281	6,845	8,299	8,615	6,669
11	Danielson	1,582	1,410	1,626	2,023	2,136	2,238	1,805
12	Manchester	4,771	5,172	5,011	4,932	4,027	3,676	3,314
13	Windsor	1,287	1,275	1,987	2,104	2,074	2,211	2,141
14	Hartford	10,535	10,691	10,847	13,254	13,750	14,319	12,550
15	New Britain	3,925	3,794	3,749	4,416	4,399	4,356	3,774
16	West Hartford	2,693	2,889	3,305	4,002	4,367	4,017	3,721
17	Bristol	2,234	1,780	2,391	2,721	2,731	2,722	2,722
18	Winsted	1,824	1,852	2,077	2,389	3,570	3,655	2,549
19***	Rockville	-	-	-	953	1,992	2,038	2,033
TOTALS		67,779	70,008	74,078	90,023	94,595	95,002	84,968

* Jurisdiction of abolished Circuit Court merged into C.C.P., Effective 12/31/74
** Effective 9/1/71, Jurisdiction increased from $250. to $750. (Sec. 4, P.A. 870-1971)
*** G.A. created in Tolland County pursuant to P.A. 74-183, Effective 12/31/74

D. PROBATE COURT

STATISTICS OF THE COURTS OF PROBATE
FISCAL YEARS 1976-77 and 1977-78

		1976-77	1977-78
I.	Decedent's Estates		
	Application for:		
	Administration - Intestate	3,479	3,038
	Probate of Will - Testate	7,255	7,241
	Sale or Mortgage of Real Estate	1,904	1,993
	Compromise Claim	473	445
	Allowance for Spouse	495	379
	Allowance of Account	10,450	9,280
	Other Applications or Petitions	1,706	1,642
	Small Estates Affidavit	4,160	4,377
	Tax Purposes Only	3,156	3,004
II.	Adoptions and Terminations		
	Application or Petition for:		
	Termination of Parental Rights	623	600
	Appointment of Statutory Parent	314	236
	Approval of Adoption Agreement	957	973
	Combination Termination of Parental Rights and Adoption	315	252
	Other Applications or Petitions	46	42
III.	Conservators		
	Application for:		
	Appointment of Conservator of Person/Estate or both	1,391	1,283
	Sale or Mortgage of Real Estate	386	387
	Compromise Claim	54	53
	Allowance of Account	1,949	1,852
	Other Applications or Petitions	304	292
IV.	Guardians		
	Application for:		
	Appointment of Guardian of the Person	241	262
	Appointment of Guardian of the Estate	603	593
	Sale or Mortgage of Real Estate	70	80
	Compromise Claim	158	157
	Removal of Guardian of the Person	148	132
	Allowance of Account	562	492
	Other Applications or Petitions	188	140
V.	Trustees		
	Appointment of Testamentary Trustee	421	542
	Trust Accounts which Require Hearing	5,662	5,072
VI.	Marriages		
	Request for Permission (Minors)	75	68
	Request for Waiver - 4 day/blood test	767	777
VII.	Commitments - Application for	1,921	1,969
VIII.	Passport Applications	8,515	9,456
IX.	Motions for Appeal	64	86
X.	Transfers to Juvenile Court	4	9

-VII-

APPENDIX: JUDICIAL DIRECTORY

JUDICIAL DIRECTORY

SUPREME COURT

John P. Cotter
Chief Justice

John A. Speziale
Chief Court Administrator

Alva P. Loiselle
Joseph W. Bogdanski
Joseph S. Longo
Ellen A. Peters

SUPERIOR COURT

Arthur H. Healey
Leo Parskey
Anthony J. Armentano
David M. Shea
Robert A. Wall
Douglass B. Wright
Paul J. Driscoll
Samuel J. Tedesco
Anthony E. Grillo
Harold M. Mulvey
Irving Levine
Joseph F. Dannehy
Robert J. Testo
Thomas J. O'Sullivan
Kenneth J. Zarrilli
Henry J. Naruk
George A. Saden
Simon S. Cohen
T. Clark Hull
Robert I. Berdon
Angelo G. Santaniello
John F. Shea, Jr.
John J. Daly
William L. Hadden, Jr.
Francis J. O'Brien
Maurice J. Sponzo
Harold H. Dean
Lester H. Aaronson
Luke F. Martin
Robert J. Callahan
Robert L. Levister
William C. Bieluch
Eli L. Cramer
Mary Fitzgerald Aspell
James F. Henebry
Francis R. Quinn
John N. Reynolds
Milton J. Herman
Philip E. Mancini, Jr.
Joseph H. Goldberg
Daniel F. Spallone
Milton H. Belinkie
C. Perrie Phillips
John M. Fitzgerald
Roman J. Lexton
Margaret C. Driscoll
Norton M. Levine
Donald T. Dorsey
Rodney S. Eielson
Nicholas F. Armentano
Joseph J. Chernauskas
Joseph A. Adorno
Alvin G. Rottman
Frederica S. Brenneman
Michael P. Conway
Robert D. Glass
William S. Ewing, Jr.
Thomas H. Corrigan
John Ottaviano, Jr.
Joseph F. Morelli
Howard J. Moraghan
Simon Bernstein
Burton J. Jacobson
JoAnne K. Kulawiz
William D. Graham
Frank J. Kinney, Jr.
Edward F. Stodolink
Milton A. Fishman
Martin L. McKeever
Leonard W. Dorsey
Harry W. Edelberg
Thomas J. O'Donnell
M. Morgan Kline
G. Sarsfield Ford
Alfred V. Covello
Donald W. Celotto
Barry R. Schaller
James M. Higgins

Walter M. Pickett, Jr.
Stanley Novack
Harry Hammer
Paul J. Falsey
Robert Satter
Frances Allen
Nicholas A. Cioffi
Hugh C. Curran
John D. Brennan
Sidney S. Landau
Francis X. Hennessy
Aaron Ment
Eugene T. Kelly
Julius J. Kremski
William J. McGrath
William Beale Ramsey
Arthur L. Spada

Norman A. Buzaid
Antoinette L. Dupont
James T. Healey
L. Scott Melville
Robert J. Hale
Albert W. Cretella, Jr.
David M. Borden
Martin L. Nigro
Edward Y. O'Connell
Mary R. Hennessey
Seymour L. Hendel
John P. Maiocco, Jr.
Paul M. Foti
Norris L. O'Neill
Brian E. O'Neill
Samuel S. Freedman
William J. Sullivan

SENIOR JUDGES

John M. Alexander
Henry J. DeVita
Philip M. Dwyer
Louis George
Edward C. Hamill

David H. Jacobs
Harold M. Missal
Jay E. Rubinow
Michael Sicilian
Walter J. Sidor